



IPPC – International Plant Protection Convention ISPM 15 – Wood Packaging Material

To safeguard native forests against the introduction and spread of wood-borne pests, many countries have established quarantine regulations for wood packaging materials used in international trade. To avoid a patchwork of different national import requirements, the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), a convention administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, developed the ISPM 15 – International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15: Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.

This standard defines internationally recognized phytosanitary treatments and marking requirements for wood packaging materials such as pallets, crates, and dunnage used in global trade.

The Swiss company producing TPP wooden holders is approved and licensed by the Federal Plant Protection Service (EPSD) to perform heat treatment of packaging wood in accordance with the ISPM 15 standard.

ISPM 15 Standard – Phytosanitary Treatment

Heat Treatment (HT)

The approved treatment method in Switzerland is heat treatment (HT) using conventional steam- or dry-kiln heat chambers.

Wood packaging material must be heated until the core temperature of the wood reaches at least 56 °C and is maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes throughout the entire wood profile. This treatment effectively eliminates most quarantine pests associated with wood.

Key Features of ISPM 15:

Application of an approved phytosanitary treatment, most commonly heat treatment (HT).

The core temperature of the wood must reach at least 56 °C for a minimum of 30 minutes.

Wood packaging material must be permanently and legibly marked with the official ISPM 15 stamp.

The mark must be non-transferable and placed in a visible location on at least two opposite sides of the pallet or packaging material.

The mark contains:

- the IPPC symbol
- the ISO country code (e.g., CH for Switzerland)
- the unique approval number of the treatment provider
- the treatment code (e.g., HT for heat treatment)
- Examples of the official ISPM 15 mark and its correct application (2018 revision) are shown in Fig. 1 and Fig.2

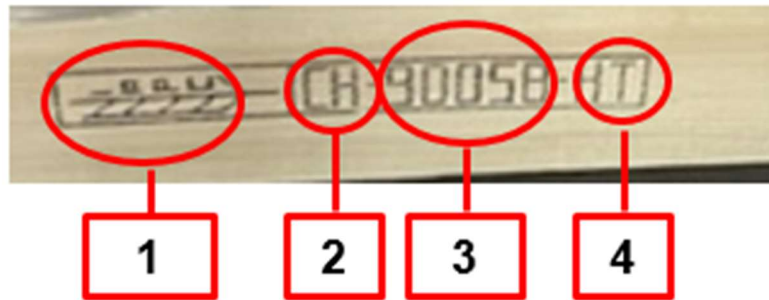
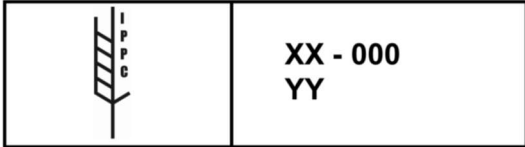
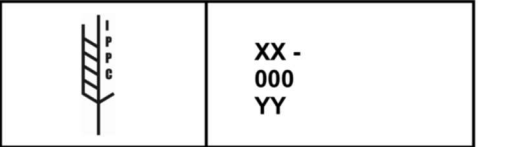
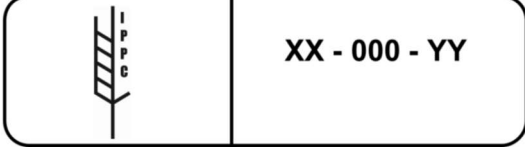
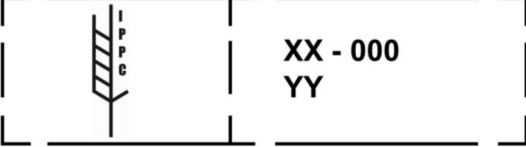
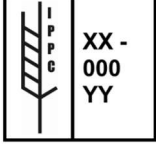
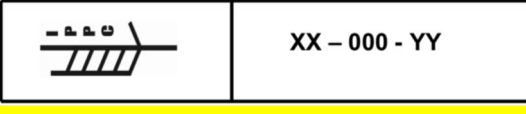


Figure 1: Example of IPPC mark

1. IPPC symbol
2. Country code to ISO 3166 – CH for Switzerland
3. TPP provider code assigned by the National Plant Protection Organization NPPO, in **Switzerland Federal Plant Protection Service (EPSD)**
4. IPPC abbreviation of treatment code: HT

Possible Variation of IPPC Mark on Wood Pallets

<p>Example 1</p> 	<p>Example 2</p> 
<p>Example 3</p> 	<p>Example 4</p> 
<p>Example 5</p> 	<p>Example 6 (TPP Techno Plastic Products AG)</p> 

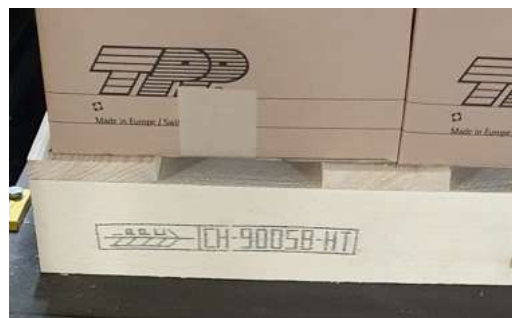


Figure 2: Mark on TPP pallets



Literature:

- International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). *ISPM No. 15 – Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- AO. International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM 15): Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.
- Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG), Switzerland.
Plant Protection Service (EPSD): Implementation of ISPM 15 requirements for wood packaging material.
- European Commission. Requirements for Wood Packaging Material according to ISPM 15.

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