

Lumber and Log Phytosanitary Inspections

Standard Operating Procedures

***** IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE *****

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT MILLS CAN BE DANGEROUS!

SAFETY FIRST!

REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

◆ HARD HAT ◆

◆ BRIGHT VEST ◆

◆ APPROPRIATE FOOTWARE ◆

◆ HEARING & EYE PROTECTION WHEN NEEDED ◆

ALWAYS KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND EARS LISTENING FOR FORKLIFTS & OTHER HEAVY EQUIPMENT, YOU SHOULD SEE THEM BEFORE THEY SEE YOU.

KEEP CLEAR OF ANY MOVING PARTS ON MACHINERY!

Lumber

1. Call or email the mill ahead of time to schedule an inspection. (Some places don't mind if you just show up, but for your first inspection please call; they will let you know if impromptu visits are acceptable.)
2. Introduce yourself and let them know our inspection plan and process. The mill may not have any export lumber on hand at the moment; just explain that inspecting any of the kiln-dried lumber they have is sufficient. We do not have the staff to inspect each export load; mills whose lumber is exported will be inspected throughout the year (usually quarterly).
3. Complete the inspection, taking a minimum of 4 moisture readings per pallet of different species of lumber that may be exported. Collect GPS coordinates and fill out the attached inspection form.
4. Have the company make a copy of the inspection report for their records; you keep the original.
5. Email the inspection report to phytosanitary program manager and it will be put on the I:drive for future reference in issuing Phyto certificates.

- For kiln dried (KD) lumber, the moisture content should not exceed 18%. This requirement varies slightly country to country but for the most part you will rarely see a moisture reading above 12%. **HINT:** Make sure the paint on ends of boards is dry.
- Residual bark and wane - the wood has been squared edged so as to remove the entire rounded surface, some bark allowed and again varies from country to country. Bark/Wane should not be present on most boards.

Logs

1. When inspecting logs with bark attached you are looking for signs of GM, EAB, ALB, MPB and any other regulated pest of concern.
2. Mill should give you a log origin report to document where logs originated plus any other necessary documents.
3. Make sure species and number of logs in load are both correct. (Most places mark their logs per load – *e.g.* Red “J” spray-painted on each log)
4. Note the overall percentage of bark on logs.
5. Fill out both the log/lumber inspection report for all loads being moved interstate prior to overseas export.
6. Have mill make a copy of the inspection report for their records.
7. Email the inspection report to phytosanitary program manager and it will be put on the I:drive for future reference in issuing Phyto certificates.

Things to look for:

- Any signs of feeding or boring by insect pests (ALB, EAB...).
- Gypsy Moth, Coddling moth
- Thousand Canker Disease – staining of the wood