

F.No.18-7/2006-PP.II
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
(Plant Protection Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
3rd July 2006

ORDER

I The Central Government, in exercise of the powers under Clause 14(1) of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order 2003, as amended, hereby relaxes, in the public interest, the conditions of the Order pertaining to the import of *Triticum* spp (Wheat) – grains for consumption or processing.

Wheat grains for consumption and processing shall be allowed to be imported into India up to 31.12.2006 in accordance with the following conditions:-

- (i) The wheat consignment would be required to be certified to be free from Granary weevil (*Sitophilus granaries*).
- (ii) The wheat consignment would be required to be certified to contain less than 0.01% Ergot (*Claviceps purpurea*) w/w.
- (iii) The wheat consignment would be required to be certified to contain less than 0.005% Dwarf bunt (*Tilletia contraversa*)
- (iv) The wheat consignment would be required to be certified to contain less than average of 100 quarantine weed seeds, as per Schedule VIII of this Order, per 200 kg of samples drawn as per the prescribed procedure.
- (v) The wheat consignment would be required to be fumigated with Methyl Bromide @32 g/cu m at 21°C and above for 24 hours under Normal Atmospheric Pressure and the treatment endorsed on the Phytosanitary Certificate OR the wheat consignment would be required to be fumigated with Aluminium Phosphide @ 40g/1000 cu ft for a period of at least 21 days prior to arrival into India provided the ship hold has provision for post re-circulation of phosphine gas during the period of transit.

The wheat consignment would be required to be accompanied by a valid Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) in conformity with the accepted International Convention, issued by the concerned NPPO for each shipment. Such certificate may also be issued by the NPPO on the basis of inspection done by an agency accredited to the said NPPO.

II Inspection of the wheat grain shall be carried out prior to loading on to the vessel by an authorized officer or accredited agency of the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the exporting country. Such inspection shall be carried out as

per the guidelines prescribed under ISPM-12 (Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates-IPPC) to ensure that the wheat grain shipped to India has less than the permissible limit of quarantine pests / weeds. The following scale of statistically valid sampling programme should be applied to the entire shipment during loading. A sample of one kilogram of wheat should drawn for every 20 Metric Tonnes of wheat grain loaded on to the vessel from the export lot of wheat grain and the entire quantity would be subjected to inspection to ensure that it is within the specified limit of quarantine pests and weeds. The sampling should be carried out either through a slotted grain sampler or nobbe sampler if it is bagged cargo or through an automatic sampling system attached to a grain elevator, which samples the grain at periodical intervals. The frequency of sampling and the size of sample will be set to facilitate drawal of the required sample as indicated above. Alternatively the samples may be drawn using deep bin probes (thermo sampler) from the ship holds/grain bins. Alternatively, the exporting country may adopt an appropriate statistical sampling intensity so as to give 95% confidence for detecting the prescribed tolerance levels for the quarantine pests and weed seeds specified in the tender. The samples shall be inspected an authorized officer or accredited agency of the NPPO of the exporting country for grain contaminants such as bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. For this purpose, the samples have to be inspected visually to detect bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. If presence of any quarantine pests or weeds is detected above the limit specified in this tender, the officer of the NPPO / Agency should stop loading the wheat grain. In case any bunted grains are noticed shall be subjected to microscopic examination to characterize the species. The phytosanitary certificate for ergot, dwarf bunt, granary weevil and quarantine weeds may be issued on such sampling and inspection system.

This order comes into force with immediate effect in respect of all wheat shipments made on or before 31.12.2006 and is being issued in the public interest.

(Ashish Bahuguna)
Joint Secretary to the government of India

Copy to:

- i. Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, with reference to D.O.No.3-10/2006-Impex dated 3.7.2006
- ii. Shri Gautam Ray, Joint Secretary (TRU), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
- iii. Dr. P S Chandurkar, Plant Protection Adviser, Dte. of PPQ&S with a request to apprise all Plant Quarantine Stations of the contents of the above order and to also publish it on the website of the Directorate.

(Amand Shah)
Director (PP)