



Imported WPM that does not comply with ISPM15:

The UKWPMMP guide states the following:

“Action taken is at the discretion of the Plant Protection Organisation of the importing country. Non-compliant wood packaging material may be re-exported (with or without the goods being shipped with it), destroyed, treated, subjected to deep burial or processing, e.g. chipping (depending upon the policy of the country of import), generally at the importer’s expense. Where treatment is approved as a remedial option, wood packaging material must be subject to re-treatment and all previous ISPM15 marks must be removed or obliterated and the product re-marked by a person authorised under the UKWPMMP.”

Under these circumstances The Forestry Commissions normal practice is to issue a statutory plant health notice containing the conditions for remedial action and it is an offence not to comply with the conditions in a notice.

It is also an offence not to comply with a provision under the Plant Health Regulation and the one which would apply is contravention of Article 43(1) which is the prohibition on introducing WPM into the EU unless it fulfils the requirements of ISPM15.

The new Civil Sanctions also came into effect on 29th October and include fixed and variable monetary penalties: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1089/introduction/made>

(The above information is available in the UKWPMMP guide, which is publicly available.)