

Lacey Act Update: USDA-APHIS Issues Document re: Special Use Codes for PPQ505

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has issued a document to assist in the efficient and accurate completion of the Plant and Plant Product Declaration Form known as PPQ505, required under the Lacey Act. This document is broken down into three categories:

- The possible use of shorthand for common trade groupings of species;
- The possible difficulties involving in identifying composite, recycled, reused or reclaimed materials to the genus and/or species level; and
- Other Special Cases, including the difficulty in identifying the genus and species for certain articles manufactured prior to the passage of the Lacey Act Amendments; and instances where no plant material is present.

The USDA-APHIS document can be found on the agency's Lacey Act Website:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/lacey_act/downloads/lacey-act-special-use-codes.pdf.

The Lacey Act prohibits trade in wildlife, fish and plants that have been illegally taken, possessed, transported or sold.

The Lacey Act amendments included in the *Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008* make it unlawful to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase both via interstate and international commerce any plant or plant product taken in violation of the laws of a U.S. state or any foreign national law that protects plants, and requires additional reporting for imports of these subject products.

As further information, the final update for this Act was Phase IV, effective April 1st, 2010. There have been no additions to this listing of classifications since that time.

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