

**April 09**

**Lacey Act declaration mandatory May 1, 2009**

Enforcement of the plant import declaration will begin May 1, 2009. We are currently testing our software for electronic submission and will be ready when the enforcement period begins. The 30-day delay of enforcement will allow all parties to resolve any problems. It is not anticipated that enforcement of subsequent phases will be delayed.

As a reminder, providing false or misleading information to the U.S. government can result in civil or criminal actions against any involved party. Follows are the HTS chapters affected now:

HTS Code	Brief Description
4401	Fuel wood
4403	Wood in the rough
4404	Hoopwood, poles, posts, stakes
4406	Railway and tramway sleepers
4407	Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise
4408	Sheets for veneering
4409	Wood continuously shaped
4417	Tools, tool handles, broom handles
4418	Builders' joinery

For a list of chapters scheduled to be phased in on July 1 and October 1, please contact our office or visit the CBP website at

[http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/trade\\_programs/entry\\_summary/laws/food\\_energy/amended\\_lacey\\_act/guidance\\_lacey\\_act.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/trade_programs/entry_summary/laws/food_energy/amended_lacey_act/guidance_lacey_act.xml)

**New requirements for imports of food products containing small amounts of meat or poultry**

On March 31, 2009, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued an "Importer/Broker" letter to clarify the import permit process for USDA Food Safety Inspection

Service (FSIS)-exempted food products containing small amounts (less than two percent) of meat and/or poultry ingredients. This letter can be found on the following APHIS webpage:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/animals/animal\\_import/animal\\_imports\\_anproducts.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_import/animal_imports_anproducts.shtml)

Further, APHIS has informed Customs and Border Protection (CBP) that a USDA import permit will now be required for all FSIS-exempted food products containing small amounts of meat and/or poultry ingredients. Products such as bouillon cubes, extracts, and soup mixes, which have previously gained entry solely under a health certificate indicating product being concentrated by boiling, will now also require a USDA import permit. CBP enforcement of this USDA administrative change is scheduled to start on June 22, 2009. Questions for APHIS may be directed to Dr. Christopher Robinson at [Christopher.c.robinson@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Christopher.c.robinson@aphis.usda.gov) or at phone number **(301) 734-3277**.

**Mexico levels retaliatory tariffs on wide range of U.S. exports** (From our friends at Sandler Travis)

For our customers who export to Mexico, they have imposed tariffs on a wide range of U.S. exports in retaliation for the recent termination of a pilot project that allowed Mexican long-haul trucks to operate deep into the US. This action will result in Mexican import tariffs of 10% to 45% on almost 90 different products. We urge you to contact your freight forwarder for details.

Please contact us with any questions.

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