



BIOSECURITY

Import Health Standard for the importation of Timber products into Ascension Island

Issued under section 9 of the Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020

Issue date: 02 November 2020

GUIDE FOR USERS

The information contained in this Import Health Standard is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of three parts.

PART A: General Information: contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for this Import Health Standard and the general responsibilities of importers.

PART B: Specification: this section is the statutory biosecurity import specification issued under section 9 of Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020. It sets out the requirements that need to be met in order lawfully to import the relevant goods into Ascension.

PART C: Clearance Procedure: describes the process that applies when a consignment is imported into Ascension and what may happen if biosecurity import clearance is refused.

Part A: General Information

1. Import Health Standard and Importer's Responsibility

- 1.1 A consignment which contains a controlled import must be granted biosecurity import clearance on arrival in Ascension in order to be imported. Obtaining biosecurity import clearance is dependent upon the biosecurity risk posed by the consignment on arrival in Ascension. A consignment which meets the requirements of this Import Health Standard is likely to pose an acceptable biosecurity risk and therefore to be granted biosecurity import clearance.
- 1.2 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure the consignment is compliant with the current version of this Import Health Standard at the time of importation into Ascension. Any person who imports or attempts to import an article which does not comply with an import health standard that applies to it commits an offence and may be prosecuted and fined.

2. Review of Import Health Standard

- 2.1 The Import Health Standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes to the risk posed to Ascension by the importation of the goods to which it relates. This may happen without notice, but notice will be given to affected importers where possible.

3. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

- 3.1 In addition to requirements under Ascension's Biosecurity Ordinance, the importation of plants and plant products of some plant species is regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), of which the UK is a signatory and which is extended to Ascension. Application for the import of species identified in Appendices I, II or III must be accompanied by a valid CITES export permit issued by the appropriate management authority in the country of export. Additional information can be obtained at: <http://www.cites.org>.

4. Definition of Terms

4.1 Biosecurity Officer

A Biosecurity Officer appointed under section 3 of the Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020.

4.2 Biosecurity import clearance

Clearance given under section 15 of the Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020 which, once given, means that the goods are cleared for importation without further restrictions.

4.3 Controlled imports

Goods regulated under the Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020, the details of which are set out in the Biosecurity (Prohibited and Controlled Imports) Regulations, 2020.

5. Biosecurity Import Exemptions

- 5.1 The controlled imports to which this Import Health Standard relates must meet the requirements set out in Part B in every respect. If it is not possible for the products to comply with the requirements, an application for an exemption under section 7 of the Biosecurity Ordinance, 2020 must be submitted to the Biosecurity Officer for consideration prior to importation. The application must be made at the earliest possible opportunity and must set out which requirement cannot be met and what measures of an equivalent nature have been taken to compensate.

6. Official Point of Contact

- 6.1 The official point of contact for this Import Health Standard is:

Biosecurity Officer
Ascension Island Conservation and Fisheries Directorate
Georgetown
Ascension Island
ASCN 1ZZ
Tel/Fax: 00 247 66359
Email: biosecurity@ascension.gov.ac

7. Fees and Costs

- 7.1 All fees and costs involved with documentation, transport, storage, treatment and obtaining biosecurity import clearance (including compliance with this Import Health Standard) shall be borne by the importer or agent.

Part B: Import Specification

8. Import licensing

- 8.1 Importations into Ascension of timber products listed at Section 9.1.1 to 9.1.2 which meet the requirements of this Import Health Standard **DO NOT** require a biosecurity import licence.

9. Application

- 9.1 This Import Health Standard applies to the importation into Ascension of the following timber products:

9.1.1 Sawn wood, lumber, half rounds, mouldings, dowelling, poles, piles, rounds, fencing panels, new and used railway sleepers and laminated beams (not produced by heat or pressure treatment).

10. Import Requirements

- 10.1 All timber products listed at 9.1.1 above must comply with the following requirements:

10.1.1 be free of live insects or other visible signs of pests;

10.1.2 be free of extraneous material (e.g. leaves, soil, bark);

10.1.3 any packaging used with the consignment must be clean and new;

10.1.4 all consignments of poles, piles and rounds must be:

- a) Fumigated as stated in 10.3.1; or
- b) Heat treated as per 10.3.2; or
- c) Chemical treated as per 10.3.3

10.1.5 all consignments of new and used sleepers must be heat treated as per 10.3.2;

10.1.6 all consignments that require fumigation or heat-treatment prior to export under Sections 10.1.4 and 10.1.5, must be treated no more than twenty-one (21) days before the date on which it departs the country of export.

10.2 All timber that requires treatment according to section 10 of this document must be accompanied by proof of treatment such as a fumigation certificate from a professional fumigation company in the country of export.

10.3 Treatment options

Treatment options are as follows:

10.2.1 **Fumigation** with methyl bromide or sulphuryl fluoride of filleted (separated vertically or horizontally by a minimum of 5mm airspace in one dimension, every 200mm) at:

- i) 160 g/m³ for more than 48 continuous hours, at a temperature between 10°C and 15°C; or
- ii) 120 g/m³ for more than 48 continuous hours, at temperatures 15.1°C and above.

OR

10.2.2 **Heat treatment** (or kiln drying) at one of the following minimum continuous core temperature and minimum time combinations:

Core temperature (OC)	Time (minutes)
70	240
80	120
90	60
100	30
110	20

120	15
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OR

10.2.3 Chemical preservation of poles, piles and rounds (not including sleepers) to full sapwood penetration using one of the chemicals as specified in the following table:

Chemical	Minimum Retention
Boron compounds <i>(insecticidal and limited fungicidal protection)</i>	0.1% Boric Acid equivalent minimum loading in the sapwood core
Copper + didecyldimethyl ammonium chloride (DDAC) <i>(insecticidal & fungicidal protection)</i>	0.35% mass/mass OR 2.8 kg/m ₃ in softwood timbers, 5.60 kg/m ₃ in hardwood timbers.
Copper azole <i>(insecticidal & fungicidal protection)</i>	0.27% mass/mass OR 1.35 kg/m ₃ in softwood timbers, 2.7 kg/m ₃ in hardwood timbers.
Copper Chrome Arsenic (CCA) <i>(insecticidal & fungicidal protection)</i>	0.27% mass/mass OR 3kg/m ₃ minimum preservative retention
Arsenic <i>(insecticidal protection only)</i>	0.04% minimum preservation loading in sapwood core
Permethrin <i>(insecticidal protection only)</i>	Minimum retention of not less than 0.06% mass/mass

11. Documentation

- 11.1 Where required, documentation must accompany the consignment to which it relates.
- 11.2 Documentation must be in English or accompanied by a translation certified by a scrivener notary or other suitable professional.
- 11.3 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this Import Health Standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity import clearance or rejection of consignments.

Part C. Clearance Procedure

- 12 A Biosecurity Officer may, on or before the arrival of a consignment at the port of arrival, declare that the consignment is subject to biosecurity import control. Consignments that are subject to biosecurity import control may be inspected, including the taking of samples and the carrying out of tests where necessary, to ensure that the biosecurity risk posed by the consignment is acceptable.
- 13 Any consignment that meets the import requirements set out in Part B above is likely to pose an acceptable biosecurity risk and therefore be given biosecurity import clearance.
- 14 In the event that the inspection detects any biosecurity issues with the consignment, the Biosecurity Officer will take steps to remedy those issues where possible (for example, by applying treatments) so that clearance can be granted.
- 15 If **soil, faeces, feathers, other animal related material, plant material, seeds or live invertebrates** are found on inspection, biosecurity import

clearance may be refused and the consignment may either be reconsigned or destroyed if necessary, at the importer's expense.

Part D: Amendment Record – Import Health Standard for Timber.

Amendments to this Standard will be given a consecutive number and will be dated in the body of the table. Brief details of the amended pages will be included.

No.	Details	Date
1	First version placed on-line	13/10/2020