

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Vietnam Issues Draft National Technical Regulations for Plant Quarantine Pests

Country: Vietnam

Post: Hanoi

Report Category: Livestock and Products, Dairy and Products, Grain and Feed, Oilseeds and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Poultry and Products, Oilseeds and Products, Grain and Feed, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, WTO Notifications

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Report Highlights:

This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft National Technical Regulations (NTR) on the phytosanitary requirements for imported regulated articles, proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development's Plant Protection Department. The objective of the NTR is to regulate the quarantine requirements of imported plants. The draft NTR sets a zero tolerance on all quarantine pests regulated under Circular 35/2014/TT-BNNPTNT issued in 2014. Vietnam has notified these measures to the WTO as VNM112, allowing trading partners and stakeholders to comment before May 17, 2020.

Summary

Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) will issue a Circular promulgating the National Technical Regulations on phytosanitary requirements for imported regulated articles. On March 16, 2020, Vietnam notified the NTR to the WTO as SPS Notification VNM112. The due date for comments is May 17, 2020. The proposed date for adoption of the NTR is May 28, 2020. The objective of the NTR is to stipulate regulations on quarantine requirements for imported plants. The draft NTR sets a zero tolerance for all plant quarantine pests listed under Circular 35/2014, a list composed of 61 insects, three mites, 16 fungi, four bacteria, five viruses and viroid, 14 nematodes, and 11 weeds. The weed seed *Cirsium arvense* is included in the list.

On March 31, 2019, MARD's Plant Protection Department announced a zero tolerance for wheat and soybean shipments containing *Cirsium arvense*. The policy has created uncertainty for exporters, importers, and the Vietnamese feed and flour milling industries.

The draft NTR includes the following sections:

1. General Provisions
2. Technical Requirement Provisions
 - 2.1. Inspection Requirements
 - 2.2. Examination Requirements
 - 2.3. Requirements on Pests
 - 2.3.1. Zero tolerance for plant quarantine pests
 - 2.3.2. Zero tolerance to pests under Article 25 of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Law
 - 2.3.3. Zero strange pests
3. Provisions on Management.

Zero Tolerance for Plant Quarantine Pests

The regulations on the zero tolerance for plant quarantine pests are listed in Section 2.3.1-2.3.3 of the draft NTR. Section 2.3.1 includes a table of 114 plant quarantine pests that all have a zero maximum allowable limit. The plant quarantine pests are listed under Circular 25 issued by MARD in 2014. Section 2.3.2 issues a zero tolerance for pests listed under Article 25 of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Law. Section 2.3.3 sets a zero tolerance for strange pests (strange pests are defined as pests without a scientific name that are not yet found in Vietnam).

Please refer to the GAIN report VM4067 dated October 12, 2014, about MARD's issuance of Circular 35/2014/TT-BNNPTNT publishing the list of plant quarantine pests in Vietnam. This report provides complete list of plant quarantine pests.

Post will continue to monitor and provide updates on the developments of the draft NTR. Should exporters have any questions or concerns with the draft NTR, please contact: aghanoi@fas.usda.gov.

Attachments:

[GAIN report VM4067 MARD Revises the List of Plant Quarantine Pests in Vietnam Hanoi Vietnam 12-10-2014.pdf](#)

[Translation National Technical Regulation Pest Quarantine.doc](#)