



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Crisis Preparedness in Food, Animals and Plants
Plant Health

Brussels
SANTE.G.1/WR/JV(2023) 9965078

Subject: RE: Misclassification of CN Codes in the EU Regulation on measures against pests of plants

Dear Mr Abidov,

in your letter from 13 September 2023, you report difficulties in introducing veneer sheets made from maple (*Acer saccharum*) originating from Canada or the US into the Union territory. These difficulties arise from two specific legal provisions in points 85 and 86 of Annex VII to Regulation 2019/2072.

More specifically, four CN codes referring to veneer sheets (beginning with 'ex 4408') are mentioned under point 86 (wood of maple intended for the production of veneer sheets), whereas, technically, they belong under point 85 (different kinds of maple wood, including veneer sheets).

The resulting inconsistency between the content of the second and the third column of the entries under points 85 and 86 may lead to confusion and difficulties during the official controls at control points of the Union. It is our intention to resolve this incoherence and clarify that veneer sheets made from maple shall be introduced into the Union under the special requirements laid down in point 85 of Annex VII to Regulation 2019/2072.

The Commission intends to include the necessary amendment into a legal draft which will be outlined to and discussed with the Member States in a forthcoming meeting of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed.

Yours faithfully,

[e-signed]
Dorothee ANDRE
Head of Unit

Contact: REINERT, Wolfgang, tel. +32 229-98586, Wolfgang.REINERT@ec.europa.eu,
Plant Health

c.c.: Mr. L. Battistini, Mr. H. Arijs, Mr. W. Reinert

Mr. Orifjon Abidov
European Panel Federation
orifjon.abidov@europanel.org

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË – Tel. +32 22991111
Office: F101 06/076 – Tel. direct line +32 229-98586

Wolfgang.REINERT@ec.europa.eu