

No.8-34/2021-PP.II
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated : 23rd August, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Notification to be made in the SPS Committee of WTO regarding Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) (Sixth Amendment), Order, 2022.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the text of the draft notification (in WTO format) of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) (Sixth Amendment), Order, 2022 proposing certain amendments to the phytosanitary conditions governing the import of certain plants and plant materials into India. The notification includes import of *Echinacea purpurea/ Echinacea hybrid (cone flower)* from Netherlands and *Diospyros kaki (Persimmon)* from Spain. The justification for this notification may be seen at Annexure-1.

2. It is requested that further necessary action to notify the same to the WTO Secretariat may be taken by Department of Commerce (TPD Division) at the earliest and WTO notification number allotted by WTO Secretariat may please be intimated to this Department. The text of the notification containing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) (Sixth Amendment), Order, 2022 will be available at www.agricoop.nic.in under the Head "Circulars and Notifications" – Plant Protection – WTO Notifications.

3. This issues with the approval of Joint Secretary (Plant Protection), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare.

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Copy for information to :

1. Plant Protection Adviser, Dte. Of PPQ&S, Faridabad enclosing herewith the text of the complete notification containing the draft 'Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) (Sixth Amendment), Order, 2021' with the request to arrange to provide the hindi translation.
2. Joint Director(PP), Dte. of PPQ&S, Faridabad with a similar request.
3. IT Division, DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, with the request to post the said draft notification as well as the WTO-SPS format on website www.agricoop.nic.in under the head "Circulars and Notifications"- Plant Protection - 'WTO Notifications' as "Draft Plant Quarantine (Regulation of import into India) (Sixth Amendment), Order, 2020'.
4. Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade, Department of Commerce, Room No. 221, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi, E-mail-us5tpd-doc@nic.in

Justification for the Draft Notification**I) *Echinacea purpurea* from Netherlands:**

- Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) has been completed and five potential quarantine pests have been identified.
- Netherlands proposed mitigation measures for the identified pests viz. testing the mother plants of the Echinacea in vitro plants (by ELISA test) and including the pests in the additional declaration.
- DPPQ&S has examined the mitigation measures proposed by Netherlands and found them to be satisfactory
- Further, the comments of Trade, MIDH & EXIM divisions were also sought on the draft notification and the comments are reproduced below:

S.No.	Division	Comments	Remarks of PP Division
1.	Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per trade policy, the import of this commodity is under "Free category". • Production data is not available. 	NIL
2.	MIDH (Horticulture)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to report of ICAR and fulfilling the Post-Entry Quarantine requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However, since the commodity is tissue culture plants and further Netherlands proposed to test the mother plants of the Echinacea in vitro plants (by ELISA test) and certify freedom from pests in additional declaration, DPPQ&S has not specified Post-Entry Quarantine requirement for this commodity.
3.	EXIM/ Seed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commodity is under free/ OGL category as per New Policy of Seed Development (NPSD), 1988. • Therefore, the division has No Objection for market access. 	NIL

- Further, there are no pending phytosanitary issues of interest to India with Netherlands.

II) Persimmon (*Diospyros kaki*) from Spain through In-transit cold treatment (ITCT)

- Fresh fruits of Persimmon (*Diospyros kaki*) from Spain are already allowed in PQ Order, 2003 through pre-shipment cold treatment and MBr treatment.
- However, Spain has requested for 'In-transit cold treatment (ITCT)' as an alternative treatment measure.
- Therefore this is not a new market access.
- Further Spain has successfully completed the trial shipments.
- Further, there are no pending phytosanitary issues of interest to India with Spain.