



14 June 2016

EXPLANATORY GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR DISTINGUISHING MARKS ON PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES

Issue

Certificate requesters have been entering non-compliant information into the Distinguishing marks field on phytosanitary certificates.

Requirement

MPI Technical standard: Phytosanitary certificates, Part 2.3.1 (13) Distinguishing marks:

“To enable the consignment to be linked to the phytosanitary certificate, sufficiently detailed marks and numbers on the packaging or unpackaged product must be used here.”

Guidance

The following examples are acceptable:

- “As per consignee name”, “Refer to consignee name” etc.
- “As per consignee address”, “Refer to consignee address” etc.
- “As per container number”, “Refer to container number” etc. This can only be used if information has already been entered into the container number field.
- Lot numbers
- Packet numbers
- Brand names (where they enable linkage to the phytosanitary certificate)
- Vessel name (in the case of bulk shipments)
- Airway bill number (when attached to the consignment)
- Seal number

The following examples are not acceptable:

- Product description
- Variety names
- Commodity names
- “As addressed”
- N/A (Not applicable)