



# ***REPORT***

***March 2012***

## ***IPPC ePhyto Working Group 2: Harmonization of ISPM 12 Code Lists***

### ***Sub Group D - Codes for Product Description: Categories and Subclass***



Produced by the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention

## 1. BACKGROUND

Further to the meeting of the IPPC Open-Ended Working Group on ePhyto Certification, which was held in Seoul, Korea, from 7 to 10 June 2011, the Working Group on Harmonization of ISPM 12-Subgroup D on Codes for Product Description: Categories & Subclass (WG2-SGD) worked via e-mail on the issues described below.

Possible lists of codes for product description to be used for ePhyto should fulfil certain criteria. The following criteria were formulated:

- The list should be as complete as possible (worldwide rather than regional coverage)
- Preferably use pre-existing lists where able (e.g.: UNCEFACT; product code set developed by WG1)
- The lists should be easily accessible and maintained
- A minimum of 4 elements are required for the Product Description coding
- There needs to be a free text field to capture any additional description required.

The members of the WG2-SGD were invited to provide their opinions and preferences and, based on the comments received, formulated the following product description which fulfils all criteria.

**Product Description** - Categories and Subclass are to be coded in a way that:

- it is unique and therefore recognised worldwide, being able to be translated into other languages without loss of information
- it prevents typing errors and avoids unclarity
- it is short, resulting in easy transfer of data
- it assists in automating processes and optimal use of electronic systems
- it is consistent in information and adoption by all parties concerned.

### **Product description code to comprise of 4 elements**

1/ Product:

- the botanical name where available
- the list as recommended by ePhyto Working Group 2A

2/ Intended Use:

- refer to Appendix 1 for categorisation of Intended Use which can be coded and linked to the other elements of Product Description coding

3/ Packaging:

- utilise the UNCEFACT list
- freely accessible ([http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec21/rec21rev4\\_ecetrd309.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec21/rec21rev4_ecetrd309.pdf))
- updating of list is maintained by internationally recognised body

4/ Country:

- utilise the ISO country code listing
- freely accessible (<http://www.unece.org/cefact/locode/service/location.html>)
- updating of list is maintained by internationally recognised body.

### **Additional descriptions**

The inclusion of a free text field to enable additional information to be included where applicable or necessary.

### **Weight & Volume**

- utilise the UNCEFACT list - Recommendation 20, Annexes I through III: Units of Measure - Annexes with Code Lists
- The code list is presented in three separate annexes:
  - o Annex I – Code elements listed by quantity category;
  - o Annex II – Code elements listed by unit of measure name; and
  - o Annex III – Code elements listed by common code.
- freely accessible  
([http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec20/rec20\\_rev4E\\_2006.xls](http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec20/rec20_rev4E_2006.xls))
- updating of list is maintained by an internationally recognised body
- data is presented in excel format which would enable searches to be undertaken.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WG2-SGD**

The WG2-SGD recommended as follows:

- Product Description coding to be formed from a minimum of 4 elements:
  - Product (the botanical name where available)
  - Intended Use
  - Packaging
  - Country
- The combination of the code elements to be formed by each NPPO to meet the particular needs of the intended ePhyto
- The inclusion of a free text field to enable additional information to be included where applicable or necessary
- Utilise the UNCEFACT lists for Country and Weight & Volume codes and descriptions.

## **3. RATIONALE**

### **Coding of Product Description**

- categories and subclass result in codes which are unique and therefore recognised worldwide;
- to be translated into other languages without loss of information;
- prevents typing errors and avoids unclarity;
- should be short, resulting in easy transfer of data;
- assists in automating processes and optimal use of electronic systems and
- consistency in information and adoption by all parties concerned.

**APPENDIX 1****CODES***Category Level – A 4-character code*

<b>Growing medium</b>	<b>GRME</b>
<b>Plants for Consumption</b>	<b>PLCO</b>
<b>Plants – Living Other</b>	<b>PLLO</b>
<b>Plants intended for Planting</b>	<b>PLPL</b>
<b>Plant Products</b>	<b>PLPR</b>

*Primary Level – A 3- character code*

<b>Bulbs; Corms; Tubers; Rhizomes</b>	<b>BCT</b>
<b>Cut Branches with Foliage</b>	<b>CBF</b>
<b>Cut Branches</b>	<b>CBR</b>
<b>Cut Flowers</b>	<b>CFL</b>
<b>Cotton</b>	<b>COT</b>
<b>Cuttings</b>	<b>CUT</b>
<b>Fruits</b>	<b>FRU</b>
<b>Grains</b>	<b>GRA</b>
<b>Hay</b>	<b>HAY</b>
<b>Isolated Bark</b>	<b>IBA</b>
<b>Leaves</b>	<b>LEA</b>
<b>Logs</b>	<b>LOG</b>
<b>Nuts</b>	<b>NUT</b>
<b>Pollen</b>	<b>POL</b>
<b>Processed Plant Products</b>	<b>PPP</b>
<b>Rooted plants</b>	<b>RPL</b>
<b>Seeds</b>	<b>SED</b>
<b>Stored Plant Plants</b>	<b>SPP</b>

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<b>Stockfeed</b>	<b>STF</b>
<b>Straw</b>	<b>STW</b>
<b>Tissue Culture</b>	<b>TCU</b>
<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>VEG</b>
<b>Woodchips</b>	<b>WCH</b>
<b>Wood / Timber</b>	<b>WOT</b>
<b>Wood Packaging / Dunnage</b>	<b>WPD</b>
<b>Ware Potatoes</b>	<b>WPP</b>

*Secondary Level – A 2- character code*

<b>Baled</b>	<b>BA</b>
<b>Bare-rooted</b>	<b>BR</b>
<b>Dried</b>	<b>DR</b>
<b>Fresh</b>	<b>FR</b>
<b>Frozen</b>	<b>FZ</b>
<b>With media - unpotted</b>	<b>MU</b>
<b>Without bark</b>	<b>NB</b>
<b>Without foliage</b>	<b>NF</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>OT</b>
<b>Pelleted</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>Potted</b>	<b>PO</b>
<b>Processing</b>	<b>PR</b>
<b>Research</b>	<b>RE</b>
<b>Shelled</b>	<b>SH</b>
<b>With bark</b>	<b>WB</b>
<b>With foliage</b>	<b>WF</b>

*Code combinations*

Category	Primary Description	Secondary Description	Code
Plants intended for Planting	Rooted plants	With media - unpotted	PLPLRPLMU
	Rooted plants	Bare-rooted	PLPLRPLBR
	Rooted plants	Potted	PLPLRPLPO
	Cuttings		PLPLCUT
	Tissue Culture		PLPLTCU
	Bulbs; Corms; Tubers; Rhizomes		PLPLBCT
	Seeds		PLPLSED
Plants for Consumption	Fruits	Fresh	PLCOFRUFR
	Fruits	Dried	PLCOFRUDR
	Vegetables	Fresh	PLCOVEGFR
	Vegetables	Dried	PLCOVEGDR
	Ware potatoes		PLCOWPP
	Grains		PLCOGRA
Plants – Living Other	Cut flowers		PLLOCFL
	Cut branches	With foliage	PLLOCBRWF
	Cut branches	Without foliage	PLLOCBRNF
	Leaves		PLLOLEA
	Pollen		PLLOPOL
	Seeds	Research	PLLOSEDRE
	Grains	Research	PLLOGRARE
Plant Products	Wood / Timber		PLPRWOT
	Logs	With bark	PLPRLOGWB
	Logs	Without bark	PLPRLOGNB
	Woodchips		PLPRWCH
	Isolated bark		PLPRIBA
	Wood packaging / Dunnage		PLPRWPD
	Stored plant products		PLPRSPP
	Processed plant products		PLPRPPP
	Cotton	Baled	PLPRCOTBA
	Hay		PLPRHAY
	Straw		PLPRSTW
	Stockfeed	Pelleted	PLPRSTFPE
	Stockfeed	Other	PLPRSTFOT
	Grains	Processing	PLPRGRAPR
	Cut flowers	Dried	PLPRCFLDR
	Cut branches with foliage	Dried	PLPRCBFDR
	Nuts		PLPRNUT
Nuts	Shelled	PLPRNUTSH	
Growing medium			GRME

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*Note: For full contact details see Appendix 3 of the Report of the IPPC Open-Ended Working Group on Electronic Phytosanitary Certification of the Seoul meeting:*

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