

# LACEY ACT

## PLANT AND PLANT PRODUCT DECLARATION

### Species Groupings

The 2008 Lacey Act Amendments state that the import declaration must contain both the genus and the species of the imported plant material. 16 U.S.C. § 3372(f)(1)(A). The Act further requires that if the species of plant used to produce the product that is the subject of the importation varies, and the species used to produce the plant is unknown, the declaration shall contain a list of each species of plant that may have been used to produce the plant product. 16 U.S.C. § 3372(f)(2)(A).

APHIS recognizes that some products are commonly traded under shorthand names that stand for a specific collection of species of plants. It has been recommended in comments provided to notices that APHIS has published in the Federal Register that APHIS develop a list of shorthand designations that would satisfy the requirement to provide detailed genus and species information for such groups on each PPQ505. The shorthand designations would stand for a specific list of species, thus satisfying the declaration requirement more efficiently.

Consequently, APHIS has developed a list of [Special Use Designations \(SUD's\)](#) to facilitate the declaration of certain types of shipments. Special Use Designations are entered into the Scientific Name field(s) on the PPQ Form 505 (Box 14), Customs and Border Protection ACE genus and species fields and APHIS LAWGS genus and species fields. The Species Groupings are one type of Lacey Act Special Use Designation.

## Approved Species Groupings

APHIS to date has approved the following Species Grouping: SPF (Spruce, Pine, Fir). As APHIS continues to further streamline the declaration process, APHIS has developed a process for interested parties to [request the creation of additional Species Groupings](#).

### **SPF (Spruce, Pine, Fir)**

SPF is a common grade of lumber manufactured from varying proportions of spruce, pine or fir species. SPF imports are a combination of several distinct species, but identifying the particular species in any individual shipment would be difficult, costly, and/or time consuming.

For the purposes of the Lacey Act Declaration (PPQ Form 505), the SPF species grouping includes:

- *Abies balsamea*
- *Abies lasiocarpa*
- *Picea engelmannii*
- *Picea glauca*
- *Picea mariana*
- *Picea rubens*
- *Picea sitchensis*
- *Pinus banksiana*
- *Pinus contorta*
- *Pinus resinosa*

For shipments of SPF, the importer may declare the genus as “Special” and the species as “SPF” to represent that the specific species are unknown but the SPF species grouping represents all possible species that may be present in the product. However, if a species of wood contained in the shipment does not fall under the species grouping list above, the SPF Grouping may not be used in the declaration to identify the genus and species of the plant or plant product being imported.