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13 July 2017

Japan: Preventive Measures of Fire Ants Invasion into Containers

Dear Valued Customer,

Please be advised that the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan has issued a press release (refer here for original release in Japanese) that fire ants were reportedly found in some containers importing into Japan. The Invasive Alien Species Act, administered by Ministry of Environment (MOE) of Japan, regulates that these species of ants, shall be promptly exterminated due to the possibility of serious health issues in case of contact.

In this regard, MLIT has requested countries that ship goods into Japan to take preventive measures against fire ants invasion when handling or packing of cargo into the containers. Appropriate measures should also be taken to install insecticide baits in cargo handling facilities and the surrounding area if necessary. In the event a fire ant is found in a container, it should be removed with care due to potential toxicity.

For assistance, please contact your local APL representative. We appreciate your understanding and thank you for your valuable business.

Sincerely,

APL

