

UK Guidelines for the implementation of the EU Regulations for Afrormosia (*Pericopsis elata*)



Madeleine Groves

Conventions & Policy Section (CAPS), Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK CITES Scientific Authority for plants

Lance Cruse

HM Customs & Excise, Felixstowe

Guy Clarke

CITES Team, HM Customs & Excise, Heathrow Airport

Version 3.0

Acknowledgements

**The authors would like to thank the following
for their assistance and expertise:**

- **H.M. Customs & Excise:**

Charles Mackay (CITES Team, Heathrow Airport)

Les Gregory (Restrictions & Sanctions Team)

- **UK Scientific Authority for plants - Conventions and Policy
Section (CAPS), Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew:**

Matthew Mustard

Noel McGough

Sabina Michnowicz

Alec Fraser

Contents Page

	Slide number
Afrosia – Trade Information.....	4
Afrosia – Trade information.....	5-6
Map 1 – Trade in <i>Pericopsis elata</i> from Africa.....	7
Tariff codes and ports of Entry.....	8
Procedures for importing Afrosia – processing Afrosia entries	
Step 1 – Determine that Afrosia is being imported.....	9
Step 2 – Confirm that the parts being imported are controlled under the EU Regulations.....	10
Step 3 – Which documents are required?	11
Step 4 – Check the documents.....	12
Step 5 – Entry procedure.....	13
Step 6 – Inspect the shipment.....	14
Step 7 – Seizure procedures.....	15
Step 8 – Restoration procedures.....	16
Conversion tables.....	17 -19
Appendices.....	20
Contact details.....	21
Copies of CITES documents.....	22-30

Afrormosia (*Pericopsis elata*) – What is it and why is it controlled?

**WHAT IS
AFRORMOSIA?**

Afrormosia (*Pericopsis elata*) is a tropical hardwood tree species – this species is restricted to the drier parts of semi-deciduous forests distributed in East Cote D'Ivoire & West Ghana, Nigeria & West Cameroon, the Sangha-Ngoko basin in Congo & the Central Basin in Democratic Republic of Congo.

**WHICH
COUNTRY
LISTED
AFRORMOSIA
UNDER CITES?**

Denmark – *Pericopsis elata* was listed on Appendix II of CITES at the 8th CITES Conference of the Parties (COP8), Kyoto, Japan in 1992.

**WHO ARE THE
MAJOR
EXPORTERS OF
AFRORMOSIA?**

The major exporters of Afrormosia are Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana and Nigeria. **Check with the CITES Team, Heathrow Airport to make sure there are no new or existing restrictions for exporting countries, such as bans on trade or issuance/validation of permits.**

Afrossia (*Pericopsis elata*) – Trade Information

WHO ARE THE MAJOR IMPORTERS OF AFRORMOSIA?

The European Union is a major importer of Afrossia, as is the USA and China. Within the EU, Italy is the largest importer of *Pericopsis elata*. Other major EU importers include Belgium, Spain, the UK, France and Portugal.

ARE THERE ANY EU NEGATIVE OPINIONS FOR AFRORMOSIA?

Yes – A negative opinion on the importation into the EU of *Pericopsis elata* from the Congo has been in place since the 5th September 2002. This means that Afrossia can not be imported into the EU from the Congo.

ARE THERE ANY QUOTAS FOR AFRORMOSIA?

Yes – A quota of 50,000 cubic metres (logs) is operational from the Democratic Republic of Congo for the year 2003.

Afrormosia – Trade Information

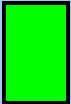

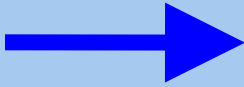


**ARE THERE
OTHER TRADE
NAMES USED
FOR
AFRORMOSIA?**

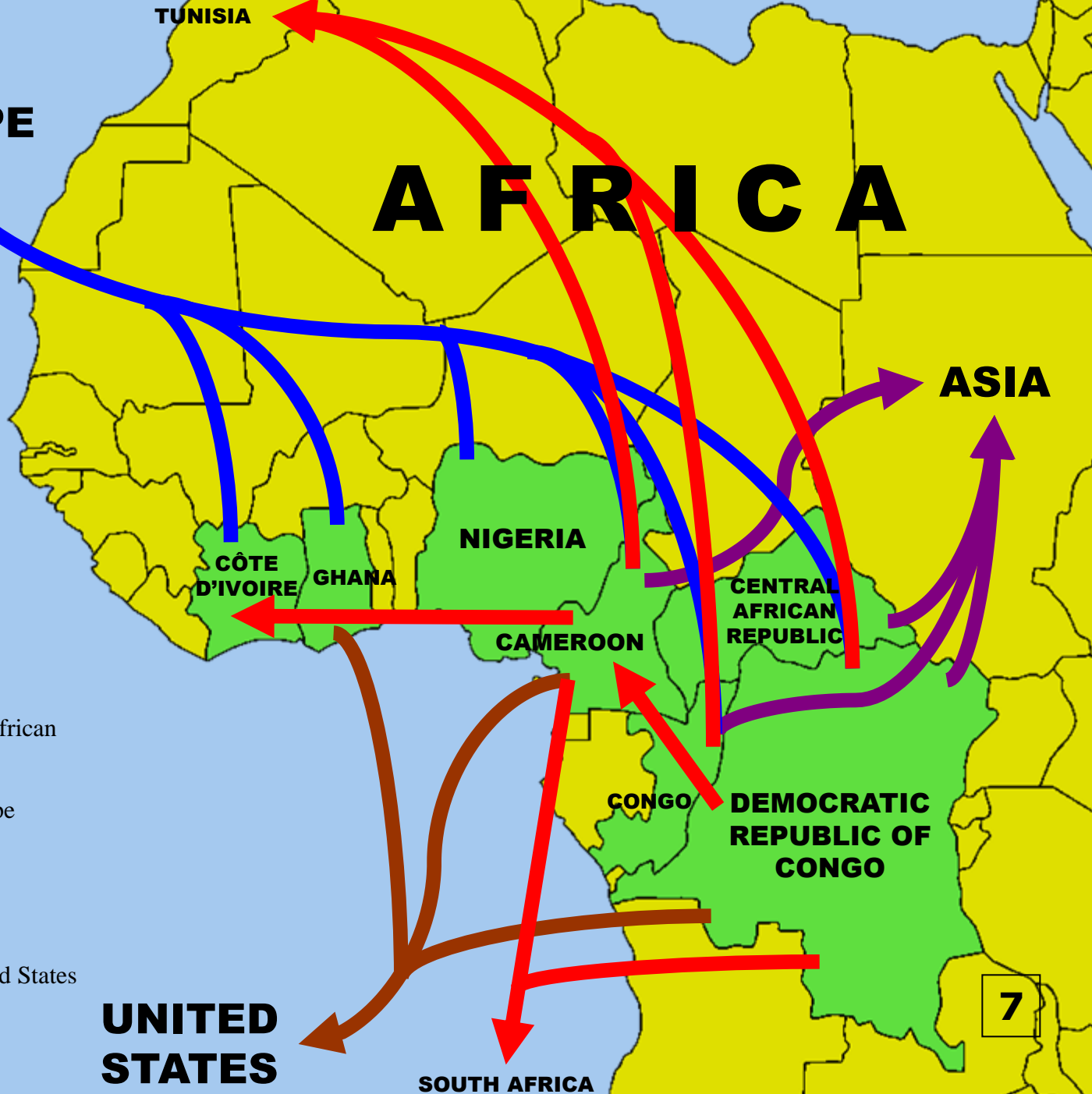
YES - The following trade names may be used for *Pericopsis elata* - African Teak, Afri, Afrormosia, Afrormosia, Anyeran, Anyesan, Asamela, Assamela, Awawai, Ayin, Ayin egbi, Baracara, Benin satinwood, Bohala, Bohalala, Bonsamdua, Devil's Tree, Egbi, Ejen, Elo, Elouta, Ghan asamela, Golden Afrormosia, Jatobaly do Igapo, Kokriki, Kokrodua, Mekoe, Mohole, Obang, Ole, Olel pardo, Peonio, Redbark, Satinwood, Teca Africana, Tento, Wahala, Yellow Satinwood.

**ARE THERE
OTHER
AFRICAN
TIMBER
SPECIES IN
TRADE?**

YES – There are numerous African timber species apart from Afrormosia that are popular in trade. Traders may use trade names used for other species to hide the fact that they are importing Afrormosia. Common or trade names used for African species in trade include African blackwood, African ebony, African mahogany, Ayous, Azobe, Bibolo, Ceiba, *Dalbergia melanoxylon*, *Dalbergia* spp., Ebony, Ekki, Emeri, *Entandrophragma* spp., Framire, Idigbo, Iroko, *Khaya* spp., N'Gollon, Okoume, Samba, Sapele, Sipo, Utile. None of these species are listed under the EU Annexes.

**Map 1 –
Trade in
*Pericopsis
elata* from
Africa**

-  Exporting Country
-  Trade between African countries
-  Trade with Europe
-  Trade with Asia
-  Trade with United States



Tariff Codes and Ports of Entry

**TARIFF HEADING
FOR WOOD &
ARTICLES OF
WOOD = CHAPTER
44**

**THE FOLLOWING
TARIFF CODES ARE
USED FOR
AFRORMOSIA**

Rough Wood.....44034100 to 44034995
Sawn wood >6mm in thickness.....44072415 to 44072995
44079910 to 44079997
Veneers <6mm in thickness.....44083111 to 44089095

**PORTS OF
ENTRY
(2003)**

EPU Port Code	Location
033.....	Bristol & Avonmouth
048.....	Swansea (Cardiff Airport)
065.....	Medway
071.....	Felixstowe
110.....	Liverpool
120 (airport).....	Gatwick/Heathrow
150.....	Tilbury
191(airport).....	Manchester
219.....	Teesport
241.....	Immingham
290.....	Southampton
515.....	Belfast
660.....	Birmingham

STEP 1 – Determine that Afrormosia is being imported

Confirm that the importation is of Afrormosia (*Pericopsis elata*)

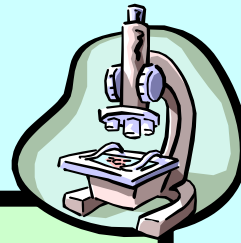
Check the shipping documents and verify the scientific name on the permit. Timber trade or common names can vary widely from country to country and it is more reliable to use the scientific (Latin) name when verifying whether a timber product is controlled or not.

The scientific name for Afrormosia is *Pericopsis elata*.



Identifying the timber

Please remember that identifying tree species by eye can be difficult and is often unreliable. All wood samples are ideally identified in a laboratory using anatomical features to ensure that the species is as stated on the permits.



Caution

Traders may use other timber trade names to disguise the fact that Afrormosia is being imported. These might be legitimate trade names used for other timber species. Please contact the CITES Team, Heathrow Airport or Lance Cruse (Felixstowe) for guidance.

STEP 2 - Confirm that the parts being imported are controlled under the EU Regulations

Source of Timber

Parts & derivatives controlled (unless otherwise stated in a Reservation)

- Range countries - Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo & Democratic Republic of Congo.

Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets

- All non-range countries whether a Party or Non-Party to CITES

Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets

STEP 3 - Which documents are required?

Source of Timber	Permits required at time of entry (these must be presented prior to or together with the Import Entry)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Range countries - Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon Congo & Democratic Republic of Congo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CITES Export permit issued and signed by designated CITES Management Authority of the exporting country •CITES Import permit issued and signed by the UK CITES Management Authority (defra)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Non-range countries that are Party to CITES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CITES (Re)-export permit issued and signed by designated CITES Management Authority of the re-exporting country •CITES Import permit issued and signed by the UK CITES Management Authority (defra)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Non-range countries that are not Party to CITES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Comparable CITES documents issued by a designated Management Authority •CITES Import permit issued and signed by the UK CITES Management Authority (defra)

STEP 4 – Check the documents

Documents are originals and not photocopies or faxes.

- Importer/Exporter details on bill of lading and invoice match those on the CITES documents.
- Is the description of goods consistent on ALL documents?
- Check any excess quantities in the shipment that are not invoiced.
- Check that the quantities on the invoice are equal to or less than those shown on the CITES documents.
- If the quantities shown exceed those on the CITES documents initiate seizure procedures (see Steps 7 & 8 -Seizures & Restoration).

Documents are still valid (in date).

Documents have been authorised by a designated issuing authority (Contact CITES Team for a list of Management Authorities).

Documents are correct for the shipment i.e. it has not been (re)exported from another country.

**Check
the
following**

STEP 5 – Entry Procedure

The Entry

CHIEF Entry Acceptance Advice (E2), Plain Paper Entry, Invoice and CITES documents.

Endorsing the documents

CITES Export/Re-export permit - Input the required details at the bottom of the original CITES permit including full entry details (import entry number, port and date) with a signature and date stamp.

CITES Import permit - Input the required details at the bottom of the original CITES permit including full entry details (import entry number, port and date) with a signature and date stamp (box 26 & 27).

Document distribution

• **CITES Export/Re-export Permits** - keep and return to defra (Bristol), photocopied copies to importer if requested.

• **CITES Import Permits** - keep white & green copies and return to defra (Bristol). Yellow copy returned to importer.

Remember - Never return original Export CITES documents to the importer

STEP 6 - Inspect the shipment

Take the following into account when inspecting the shipment

Health and Safety - Check the HS Series on the Intranet for full guidance



Pests and Diseases – if an infestation is present call your local Forestry Commission officer/sub-contractor



What sort of examination is required? Partial turnout, X-ray, high-risk (call in relevant anti-smuggling team)



Taking wood samples – wood samples can be analysed at the Jodrell Laboratory at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Please consult the CITES Team, Heathrow before taking any samples



STEP 7 - Seizure Procedures

What are the grounds for seizure?

The wood has been identified as Afrormosia and the agent has confirmed there are no CITES documents, the goods are liable for seizure.

The wood has been identified as Afrormosia and the CITES documents with the entry are not valid e.g. out of date permit, wrong species, wood quantity exceeds permit.

Seizure Procedures

Seizure to be noted on Chief using code ADTE (talk to EPU Freight Team for assistance).

ACS 99 – Roll back UCN so that the agent can reuse by splitting and present new documentation (talk to Freight Team for assistance).

Notice of Seizure (and explanatory Seizure letter, if necessary) + copy of Notice 12A to be sent to importer. Inform agent of seizure. DCIS completed

Talk to QW concerning the storage of seized goods.

DCIS to be updated and seizure file to be initiated.

STEP 8 - Restoration Procedures

Restoration Procedures

A full explanation of the procedure can be found in Notice 12A 'Compounding, seizure and restoration'

It is Customs policy not to restore seized items unless valid retrospective CITES documents have been presented

Any restoration charges must be calculated using the published departmental scales. Minimum charge is £50

When correct documentation is produced restoration may be allowed

Please contact the CITES Team's Senior Officer for advice on Departmental restoration policy



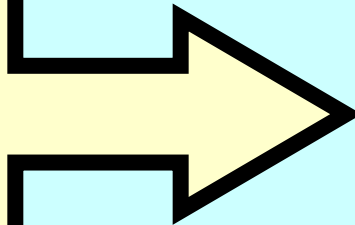
Conversion Tables

Because timber can come in different forms i.e. logs, sawn timber and/or veneer sheets, the following formulas will help with conversion problems.

CONVERT

Board feet (usually expressed as pie tablares (PT)) to cubic metres (m³)

There are 424 PT per cubic metre



EXAMPLE

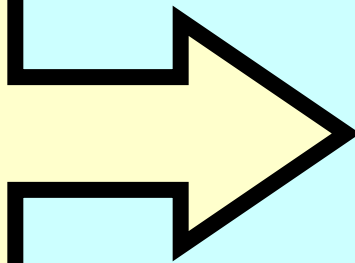
1,000 board feet of timber arrives at your port:

1,000 board feet of timber divided by 424
= 2.36 cubic metres of timber

CONVERT

Kilograms (kgms) of timber to cubic metres

There are 450-700 kgms of timber per cubic metre of timber. Use the guide figure of 600 kgms



EXAMPLE

1,000 kgms of timber arrives at your port:

1,000 kgms divided by 600 = 1.67 cubic metres

Continued on next page

Conversion Tables

CONVERT

Cubic feet of timber to cubic metres

Square feet x thickness in feet x 0.02832 = cubic metres (1 cubic foot = 0.02332 cubic metres)

EXAMPLE

10,000 sq. feet (approx. 1 inch thick arrives at your port):

10,000 sq.feet x 1/12 (12 inches in a foot) x 0.02832 = 23.6 cubic metres of timber

CONVERT

Square feet of veneer to cubic metres

Step 1

Convert square feet of veneer to square metres of veneer

Square feet of veneer = length of veneer in feet x width of veneer in feet. Therefore square feet of veneer x 0.0929 = square metres (1 square foot = 0.0929 square metres)

EXAMPLE

25,000 square feet of veneer arrives at your port:

25,000 feet of veneer x 0.0929 = 2322.5 square metres

Continued on next page

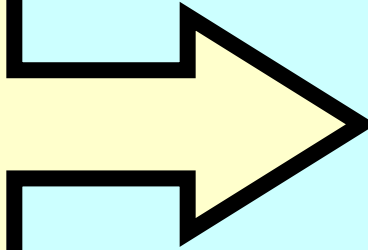
Conversion Tables

CONVERT

**Square metres of veneer to
cubic metres of veneer**

Step 2

Square metres of veneer x veneer
thickness = cubic metres



EXAMPLE

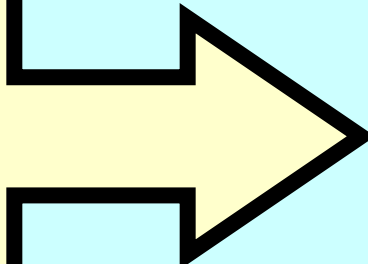
**25,000 square metres of veneer
(0.6 millimetres thick) arrives at
your port:**

25,000 square metres of veneer x 0.0006
metre = 15 cubic metres of veneer

CONVERT

**Cubic feet of veneer to cubic
metres**

Square feet x veneer thickness in feet
x 0.02832 = cubic metres (1 cubic
foot = 0.02832 cubic metres)



EXAMPLE

**25,000 square feet of veneer (1/16
of an inch thick) arrives at your
port:**

25,000 sq. feet of veneer x (1/16 of an
inch thick x 1/12) x 0.02832 = 3.688
cubic metres

Ask the agent to convert the timber products into cubic metres (unit of measure on invoice is the same as on the CITES permit)

Appendices

- **Contact Details**
- **Copies of CITES Documents**

Contact Details

HM Customs and Excise

CITES Team

Custom House

Tel: 020 8910 3830

Nettleton Road

Fax: 020 89103833

Heathrow Airport

Mobile out of hours: 07802 614670

TW6 2LA

Email: CITESTeam.LHR@hmce.gsi.gov.uk

UK CITES Scientific Authority for Plants

Madeleine Groves (CITES Implementation Officer)

Conventions and Policy Section

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AE

Tel: 020 8332 5723

Fax: 020 8332 5757

Email: m.groves@kew.org

