

Debarking Issue – Bark

WPA Meeting, January 2008

Report from IFQRG

- **Bark is perhaps the most controversial area of them all.**
- **Various surveys and experiments carried out to aid analysis of the risk posed by bark**
- **scientific evidence (IFQRG) shows that bark remains viable for post-treatment infestation**
- **in some cases heat treated bark is more susceptible to attack**
- **Questions?**
 - **How much infested bark is actually on WPM in use?**
 - **How much bark is too much bark?**
 - **Does bark affect treatment efficacy**

IFQRG Bark

- **IPPC survey 2007 results:**
 - 35 countries took part
 - WPM with bark from 80 countries assessed
 - 8626 units had bark
 - 41% pallets; 29% dunnage; 26% crates or boxes
 - bark size ranged from 0.25 - 8040² cm
 - 57% < 50² cm (credit card)
 - 41% >50² cm, < 630² cm (A4 paper size)
 - average width 3.1 cm (73% < 3 cm wide)
 - 13 insects found
 - in at least 5, evidence suggests treatment failure
 - other 8 could have been treatment failure or post-treatment attack.

IFQRG Bark

- The TPFQ proposes:
- *“Removal of bark*
- *Irrespective of the frequency of their occurrence on an individual unit of wood packaging material, pieces of bark greater than 3 cm in width should not be permitted on wood packaging moving in international trade unless the total surface area of the bark piece is less than 50² cm. (for example, long thin strips of bark less than 3 cm in width may be present).”*