

**ADVISORY TO STAKE HODERS TO PREVENT INTERCEPTIONS OF
KHAPRA BEETLE (*Trogoderma granarium*)**

In the recent months interceptions of Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*) have been reported by some importing countries in the consignments of rice, maize and other plant materials exported from India. It is advised that an integrated approach may be adopted by the all stake holders viz., exporters, fumigators, PSC issuing authorities etc associated with export of rice and other agricultural commodities adhering to the following steps in order to prevent Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*) interceptions in the consignments to be exported from India.

1. Manufacturer/exporters should have quality system in place to ensure high standards phytosanitary compliance.
2. It is necessary to ensure that fumigation is properly done by the fumigation agencies with recommended and accurate dosage of quality Methyl bromide
3. Once empty containers are picked up by the exporters and brought into the factory premises for stuffing, the containers should be properly fumigated to ensure that they are free from all kinds of contamination including Khapra beetle infestation.
4. Monitoring of Khapra beetle in Mills and Warehouses and preventing cross infestation with other commodities are warranted.
5. If factory stuffed containers are unloaded for any reason, the consignment should be re-inspected for freedom from insect-pests and diseases and retreated, if required, before reloading.
6. Polythene packed consignment should be treated before packing as polythene is made up of impervious material and does not allow penetration of Methyl bromide or other chemicals.
7. Packing machines and other materials used in packing should be cleaned properly to avoid cross and recontamination by any insect-pests and diseases.
8. Conveyance to be used to carrying treated and stuffed consignment should also be treated to avoid such contaminations.
9. Any untreated package should not be included in the container loaded with treated materials.
10. Air cargo/ ship should also be disinfected before loading treated consignments to avoid contaminations.