

1991 Amendment

Report of the 76th National Conference on Weights and Measures

1991



232-8 VC 2.4. Fireplace and Stovewood

(This item was adopted as part of the consent calendar.)

Background: Based on a review of this section, the Committee believes that the last sentence in 2.4.3. should not apply to natural wood. During the 60th NCWM, a regulation was developed to require that all fireplace and stovewood be sold by volume. This section was amended in 1976 at the 61st NCWM in deference to the Federal Trade Commission allowing artificial logs intended for burning to be sold by weight. This has caused some confusion since the sentence amending the original regulation was added directly to the regulation without specifically mentioning compressed fireplace logs. This amendment was not originally intended to allow natural firewood logs to be sold by weight; natural firewood is subject to large amounts of moisture loss. In addition, the regulation needs to specifically address stovewood pellets manufactured for special wood-burning stoves designed to accommodate them and which are now sold by weight. Moreover, since natural wood in small packages must be sold by cubic feet, the requirement must specify a limiting size for labeling by fractions of a cord. The requirement needs to set a limiting value when packaged natural wood should be labeled by fractions of a cord rather than cubic feet.

The Committee revised its Interim Report to clarify that this section applies only to stove wood pellets and chips, and not to flavoring chips.

Committee Recommendation: Amend Subsections 2.4.1.1. and 2.4.3. and add a new subsection 2.4.3.1.:

2.4.1.1. Fireplace and Stovewood. -- Any kindling, logs, boards, timbers, or other wood, natural or processed, split or not split, advertised, offered for sale, or sold for use as fuel.

2.4.3. Quantity. -- Fireplace and stovewood ~~Wood, of any type, for use as fuel~~ shall be advertised, offered for sale, and sold only by measure, using the term "cord" and fractional parts of a cord, or the cubic meter; except that:

(a) Packaged Natural Wood. -- Natural ~~wood, natural or processed~~, offered for sale in packaged form in quantities less than 1/8 cord (16 cubic feet) shall display the quantity in terms of cubic feet, to include fractions of cubic feet; or cubic meters, to include decimal fractions of cubic meters. ~~A single log shall be sold by weight, and packages of such individual logs containing less than 4 cubic feet (1/32 cord), or less than one tenth cubic meter, may be sold by weight plus count.~~

(b) Artificial Compressed or Processed Logs. -- A single fireplace log shall be sold by weight, and packages of such individual logs shall be sold by weight plus count.

(c) Stove Wood Pellets or Chips. -- Not greater than 6 inches in any dimension shall be sold by weight. This requirement does not apply to flavoring chips.