

Pat Harkin

From: Pat Harkin [P.J.R.Harkin@leeds.ac.uk]
Sent: 19 July 2009 13:09
To: Home (pat@unseenuniversity.com)
Subject: FW: Ignore this if you're busy, but if you want proof Discworld people are a little... unusual, read on

From: Rod Brown [rod@mobfilm.com]
Sent: 26 June 2009 14:44
To: Pat Harkin
Subject: RE: Ignore this if you're busy, but if you want proof Discworld people are a little... unusual, read on

Hi Pat,

In truth asking around, we think they were brought from the AM branch of B and Q... and checking with the art dept they confirm that... I'm afraid that's all the info I've got on chippings.

Hope you are well and hope to see you in Budapest.

Regards

Rod

Rod Brown

The Mob Film Co., 10-11 Great Russell Street, London WC1B3NH
Tel: +44 (0) 2075808142 email: rod@mobfilm.com web: www.mobfilm.com

From: Pat Harkin [mailto:P.J.R.Harkin@leeds.ac.uk]
Sent: 26 June 2009 09:32
To: Rod Brown
Subject: Ignore this if you're busy, but if you want proof Discworld people are a little... unusual, read on

Hi Rod,

You may not remember, but at the Guildford filming of The Colour of Magic, I asked your permission to collect some of the bark chippings used to cover the tarmac outside the UU gates. Terry has declared this "Soil of the Homeland" and we have put a couple of boxes of it in the charity auction and Wincanton and the UK convention - it usually raises about £40 a throw!

I'm trying to get some into the US for the auction at the North American DW Convention. And being slightly paranoid about being stopped at customs, I thought I'd try to do it legally and approached the US Department of Agriculture for an import licence.

They are being helpful - well, as helpful as any government bureau are allowed to be - but they want to know the scientific name of the tree from which the chipping were made...

If you have any record of whom you got the chippings from, I'll try contacting them. But don't waste time chasing the info - if it doesn't spring to mind, forget it!

All the best

Pat

Dr Patrick J R Harkin
Academic Sub Dean for Phase 1
School of Medicine
Room 7.09 Worsley Building

Pat Harkin

From: Pat Harkin [P.J.R.Harkin@leeds.ac.uk]
Sent: 19 July 2009 13:05
To: Home (pat@unseenuniversity.com)
Subject: FW: 8192/SB/Harkin/bark

From: B&Q Customer Services [BandQCustomerServices@b-and-q.co.uk]
Sent: 03 July 2009 11:25
To: Pat Harkin
Subject: 8192/SB/Harkin/bark

Dear Dr Harkin,

Thank you for your email of July 1 regarding the composition of our small chipped bark.

I have contacted the suppliers of our chipped bark products and they have advised that it consists of Spruce bark.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Regards
Stephen Brannigan
Customer Services

From: Pat Harkin [mailto:P.J.R.Harkin@leeds.ac.uk]
Sent: 01 July 2009 13:12
To: B&Q Customer Services
Subject: Source of "small chipped bark"

Dear Sirs,

A few years ago, B&Q "Small Chipped Bark" was used as set dressing for the film of Sir Terry Pratchett's novel "The Colour of Magic", shown on Sky TV Easter 2008 (<http://www.skyonline.co.uk/tcom/>). I collected some of this material when filming finished, and it's auctioned for charity at Discworld gatherings around the UK, such as the Convention (www.dwcon.org). There is going to be a convention in Arizona later this year (www.nadwcon.org) but to take the material there I will need a permit from the US Department of Agriculture. One of the questions they ask is the species of tree used to make the chips. If you could let me know the species of tree most commonly used in your manufacturing process, I would be most grateful. I appreciate that you can't possibly know the makeup of a single batch from 2 years ago, but if I can at least tell the USDA that it's likely to be one of a small range of pines, that might be enough to convince them.

Many thanks for your help,

Pat Harkin

PS I appreciate how odd this sounds but please believe me it's real, and in a good cause!

Dr Patrick J R Harkin
Academic Sub Dean for Phase 1
School of Medicine
Room 7.09 Worsley Building
University of Leeds
Leeds
LS2 9JT

Office: 0113 34 33400
Mobile: 07813 797 150

B&Q plc

Registered Office: Portswood House, 1 Hampshire Corporate Park, Chandlers Ford,
Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO53 3YX Buy Online NOW at www.diy.com<<http://www.diy.com/>>
Registered in England, Number 973387

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Thank you for your co-operation.



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

7th July 2009

This is to certify the enclosed bark has been sterilised by heat treatment at
80⁰C for 80 minutes

J.G.Hodgson
Media Laboratory Manager
Faculty of Biological Sciences
University of Leeds
Garstang South 4.13
Leeds
LS2 9JT
Tel 0113 3435583

DATE : 07/07/2009
PROCESS START : 13:49:01
AUTOCLAVE NAME : 14512
AUTOCLAVE NUMBER : 2
CYCLE COUNTER : 3592

PARAMETERS

STERILIZING TEMP 121.0C
STERILIZING TIME 00:15:00

SIGNALS

AI03 CHAMBER PRESSURE
AI00 CHAMBER DRAIN
AI01 LOAD

PROGRAM: P17 EQUIPMENT 121

PROGTIME AI03 AI00 AI01

LOCKING DOOR

00:00:01 0.991 34.2 27.7

NEG PULSING

00:03:30 1.008 34.2 38.5
00:05:26 0.093 33.8 39.4
00:05:45 0.814 98.0 78.9
00:07:55 0.107 52.4 50.1
00:08:13 0.814 101.6 84.5
00:10:26 0.107 52.5 52.5

POS PULSING

00:10:27 0.106 52.5 52.5
00:11:09 1.919 115.5 114.1
00:11:29 1.090 108.1 107.2
00:11:44 1.917 116.1 114.1
00:12:04 1.086 108.3 107.1
00:12:18 1.918 116.3 113.9
00:12:38 1.089 108.4 107.1
00:12:52 1.914 116.3 113.7
00:13:12 1.084 108.3 107.0
00:13:27 1.916 116.2 113.7
00:13:46 1.093 108.5 107.2
00:14:00 1.920 116.4 113.6
00:14:20 1.090 108.5 107.2
00:14:34 1.921 116.2 113.6
00:14:53 1.097 108.5 107.2
00:15:07 1.925 116.4 113.6

HEAT UP

00:15:07 1.937 116.6 113.9

00:15:28 2.024 120.4 120.5

00:15:48 2.117 121.7 121.5

STERILIZING

00:15:51 2.084 121.6 121.8

00:16:12 2.164 122.5 122.6

00:16:32 2.155 122.9 122.8

00:16:52 2.146 122.9 122.7

00:17:12 2.144 122.8 122.7

00:17:32 2.137 122.7 122.7

00:17:52 2.135 122.7 122.7

00:18:12 2.138 122.7 122.7

00:18:32 2.135 122.8 122.7

00:18:52 2.137 122.8 122.7

00:19:12 2.137 122.8 122.7

00:19:32 2.141 122.8 122.7

00:19:52 2.144 122.9 122.7

00:20:12 2.148 122.9 122.7

00:20:32 2.155 122.9 122.7

00:20:52 2.167 122.9 122.7

00:21:12 2.185 122.9 122.6

00:21:32 2.128 122.7 122.6

00:21:52 2.135 122.8 122.7

00:22:12 2.145 122.8 122.7

00:22:32 2.154 122.9 122.8

00:22:52 2.170 123.0 122.7

00:23:12 2.143 122.7 122.6

00:23:32 2.130 122.8 122.7

00:23:52 2.136 122.8 122.7

00:24:12 2.143 122.9 122.7

00:24:32 2.152 122.9 122.8

00:24:52 2.165 122.9 122.7

00:25:12 2.183 122.9 122.6

00:25:32 2.129 122.7 122.6

00:25:52 2.136 122.8 122.7

00:26:12 2.145 122.9 122.7

00:26:32 2.156 122.9 122.8

00:26:52 2.171 123.0 122.6

00:27:12 2.126 122.7 122.6

00:27:32 2.129 122.7 122.7

00:27:52 2.138 122.8 122.7

00:28:12 2.147 122.9 122.8

00:28:32 2.156 123.0 122.7

00:28:52 2.182 123.0 122.6

00:29:12 2.130 122.8 122.7

00:29:32 2.134 122.8 122.7

00:29:52 2.144 122.9 122.7

00:30:12 2.157 123.0 122.8

00:30:32 2.183 123.0 122.6

00:30:52 2.133 122.8 122.7

DRYING

00:30:52 2.132 122.8 122.7

00:32:43 0.150 58.4 76.3

00:47:43 0.040 58.8 62.9

EQUALIZATION

00:47:44 0.040 58.8 62.9

DOOR RELEASE

00:48:34 0.989 57.8 72.6

PROCESS COMPLETE

00:51:37 0.990 52.9 82.1

CYCLE PASS

DRAIN ABOVE TEMP 00:15:23

LOAD ABOVE TEMP 00:15:22

SIGNATURE:

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD 20737

Permit to Import Timber or Timber Products
Regulated by 7 CFR 319.40

This permit was generated electronically via the ePermits system

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------|
| PERMITTEE NAME: | Ms. Rowan B Wakefield | PERMIT NUMBER: | P40-09-00199 |
| ORGANIZATION: | North American Discworld Convention | APPLICATION NUMBER: | P585-090630-004 |
| ADDRESS: | 4221 North 20th Street #3 Phoenix, AZ 85016 | DATE ISSUED: | 06/30/2009 |
| MAILING ADDRESS: | 4221 North 20th Street #3 Phoenix, AZ 85016 | | |
| PHONE: | (602) 253-6615 | EXPIRES: | 06/30/2012 |
| FAX: | | | |

PORTS OF ENTRY: Various Ports of Entry Staffed by CBP-Agriculture Inspection (a copy of this import permit must be provided to each port of entry or must accompany each shipment)

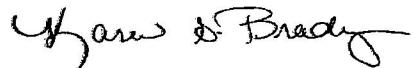
Under the conditions specified, this permit authorizes the following:

| <u>Article(s)</u> | <u>Countries of Origin</u> | <u>Type of Timber</u> | <u>Bark</u> | <u>Before Import Processing</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Other, Various types of Wood Chips | United Kingdom and Various Countries | Chips | With Bark, more than 15 pieces | Heat Treated |

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTORS

NONE

Permit Number P40-09-00199

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <p>THIS PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED ELECTRONICALLY BY THE FOLLOWING PPQ HEADQUARTER OFFICIAL VIA EPERMITS.</p> <p></p> <p>Karen Brady</p> | <p>DATE</p> <p>06/30/2009</p> |
|--|--------------------------------------|

PERMIT CONDITIONS

This permit authorizes the importation of the listed articles, under the conditions specified below. A copy of this permit (including all conditions) must accompany all shipments authorized under this permit. Upon arrival in the United States, the articles and shipping container(s) are subject to inspection by officials of Customs and Border Protection, Agriculture Inspection (CBP-AI) and Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ).

1. Wood and bark chips not from tropical plantation grown trees:
Annex -A- and Annex -L-

You may obtain a copy of 7CFR 319.40 by downloading them from our web site at:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/permits/wood.shtml

2. ANNEX -A-
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with 319.40-2, documentation accompanying each shipment (an importer document) must identify the commodity, quantity, and origin of the regulated material.

In accordance with 319.40-9, all shipments are subject to inspection and may require other actions deemed necessary by Plant Protection and Quarantine as a result of inspection. Notice of arrival may be required at the discretion of the Officer in Charge at the port of first arrival.

The regulated commodity, the container in which it is shipped, or the documents accompanying shipments will adequately describe the shipment in accordance with 319.40-9(c) unless the Officer in Charge for Plant Protection and Quarantine at the port of first arrival has notified the permittee that such documentation or portions of the documentation will be understood without being written for each shipment.

Permittee will notify the office issuing this permit of any changes in the status of the activities authorized in this permit, or substantive changes in the status of the permittee (such as change of company name, address, phone number, etc.) within 30 days of such changes occurring or 30 days prior to a shipment being authorized under this permit.

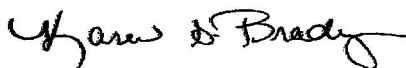
3. ANNEX -L-
UNIVERSAL IMPORT OPTION
WOOD AND BARK CHIPS (NOT FROM TROPICAL
PLANTATION GROWN TREES)

(1) In accordance with 319.40-6(c)(i)(B), must be fumigated as described in 319.40-7(f)(3), heat treated as described in 319.40-7(c), or heat treated with moisture reduction as described in 319.40-7(d). Cannot be commingled with other regulated materials (other than solid wood packing materials) unless the chips and the other regulated articles are in separate holds or in separate sealed container.

(2) All pallets and other regulated wood packing materials used in the shipment are subject to inspection and must conform to 7 CFR 319.40-3.

END OF PERMIT CONDITIONS

Permit Number P40-09-00199

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <p>THIS PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED ELECTRONICALLY BY THE FOLLOWING PPQ HEADQUARTER OFFICIAL VIA EPERMITS.</p> <p> Karen Brady</p> | <p>DATE</p> <p>06/30/2009</p> |
|--|-------------------------------|



Permit Number P40-09-00199

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|---|--------------------------------------|

WARNING: Any alteration, forgery or unauthorized use of this Federal Form is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C.s 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C.s 1001)

University of Leeds
Worsley Building
Clarendon Way
Leeds LS2 9NL



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

T +44 (0) 113 343 3400
F +44 (0) 113 343 4375

20 July 2009

Dear Customs/Import/Quarantine officer,

If you are reading this, my package has attracted your attention – probably as a result of its unusual x-ray appearance

The two sealed packages contain bark chippings – like any you could buy at a garden supply centre, but they have been sealed because... actually, it might be easier to start at the beginning.

A few years ago, a UK TV company made a film of the Discworld novel “The Colour of Magic” by the British author, Sir Terry Pratchett OBE. You may have seen it – it was made in collaboration with HBO and has been shown on US television. At the filming, one of the locations needed to be made to look pseudo-medieval and whilst the buildings were fine, the ground was not – it was modern tarmac (which I think is called “asphalt” in the US). The art department therefore bought some bark chippings and spread them to cover the tarmac.

Discworld fans raise a lot of money for charity by various means, including charity auctions at their bi-annual conventions, and I (with permission of the producers, Rod Brown and Ian Sharples of The Mob Film Company www.mobfilms.com) collected some of this material. Sir Terry has supported me in this, by declaring the material “Soil of the Homeland”. When sold at Convention auctions (with a “certificate of authenticity”), it usually raises about £40/\$60 – not a vast amount, but every little helps.

This September, the first US Discworld Convention will be held in Tempe, Arizona (<http://www.nadwcon.org/>) and I want to provide some “Soil of the Homeland”. I checked with the US Department of Agriculture, who were prepared to issue an import certificate provided that I could identify the species of tree and arrange for the material to be sterilised. Enclosed with this letter you should find 1) an import licence from the USDA, 2) print of an email from Mob Films stating they bought the bark from B&Q 3) print of an email from B&Q Customer Services stating they make their chippings from spruce and 4) a certificate of sterilisation from the Faculty of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, showing that the duration and temperature of treatment exceed that required by the USDA.

I appreciate that you cannot accept at face value anything in this letter, and may feel that you have to open the packs for testing. If you need so to do, could I please request that when you reseal the box, you include a note that you have broken the seal, so that if (at a subsequent point) I am challenged about bringing open packets into the US, I

Dr Patrick J R Harkin
Dr Patricia McConnell
Academic Sub-Deans
(Phase I)

Dr Vikram Jha
Mr Dermot Burke
Academic Sub-Deans
(Phase II)

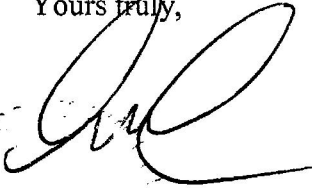
Dr Richard Fuller
Academic Sub-Dean
(Phase III)



can prove that the packs were sealed and sterile at point of entry and hence represent no danger to US agriculture.

This venture is nothing to do with the University of Leeds, but I'm using their notepaper so that you can verify my contact details and professional status from their web site (www.leeds.ac.uk) if you need to contact me for further details. I will be in the UK until August 24th but my mobile phone works internationally and I will be checking my email every few days – I'll be touring Arizona/Colorado/Nevada but just about every hotel has internet access these days!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Harkin', written over a faint, circular notepaper watermark.

Dr Patrick J R Harkin
Academic Sub-dean of Medicine
Room 7.09 Worsley Medical & Dental Building
University of Leeds
LS2 9JT

Telephone 0113 343 3400
Mobile 07813 797 150
E-mail p.j.r.harkin@leeds.ac.uk