7 March 2000

ANIMAL QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 2000/19

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: NON-VIABLE PRAWNS AND PRAWN PRODUCTS
REPORT ON PROGRESS

This Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) provides a report on progress of the import risk analysis (IRA) of non-viable prawns and prawn products and advises that AQIS expects to release the draft report in April 2000.

1. Panel Membership

Dr Leigh Owens, from James Cook University, has been appointed to the risk analysis panel (RAP) conducting the IRA of non-viable prawns and prawn products (the prawn IRA). AQPM 1999/20 proposed that Dr Owens be appointed to the RAP following the withdrawal of Dr Steve Percival. AQIS received three submissions, all supportive of Dr Owens’ inclusion.

Dr Brett Edgerton replaced Dr Judith Bourne as AQIS’s project officer for the prawn IRA.

2. Status of the IRA

The prawn IRA was delayed because AQIS was required to give priority to the accelerated salmon IRA and related work. It is expected that the draft report for the prawn IRA will be released for public comment (60 days) in April 2000.

The following reports, commissioned by AQIS that are relevant to the prawn IRA, can be viewed on the AQIS Internet homepage at the following address (http://www.aqis.gov.au/docs/anpolicy/ira1.htm):

- ‘Economic impact of the establishment of exotic prawn diseases’ by Alliance Resource Economics;
- ‘Environmental impact of the establishment of exotic prawn pathogens in Australia’ by AusVet Animal Health Services;
- ‘Routes for exposure of aquatic animals to aquatic animal products intended for human consumption’ by Aquaculture Development and Veterinary Services;
- ‘Sampling imported aquatic animal products for quarantine purposes’ by Cannon et al.
- ‘Report on description and processing of ingredients used in the manufacture of prawn feeds’ by AquaTactics; and
- ‘Case study: Charoen Pokphand prawn feed mill in Samut Sakorn Province, Thailand’ by Edgerton and Owens.
Note: the last two reports were put on the home page earlier this month.

3. Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 1982, all submissions received in response to Animal Quarantine Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked ‘confidential’ and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

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