



24 September 2026

Biosecurity (Reportable Biosecurity Incidents) Determination 2026

Introduction

The *Biosecurity (Reportable Biosecurity Incidents) Determination 2026* (the Determination) specifies events involving goods that are subject to biosecurity control that pose a biosecurity risk and must be reported to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The reports enable information about biosecurity risks to be collected in a timely manner so that the risks can be assessed and managed.

The Determination replaces the *Biosecurity (Reportable Biosecurity Incidents) Determination 2016* (the 2016 Determination), which sunsets on 1 October 2026. While the Determination introduces some new reportable events, it largely replicates existing requirements in the 2016 Determination, with minor changes made to improve clarity and streamline reporting requirements.

The Determination commences on 1 October 2026, after which the 2016 Determination will only apply in relation to reportable biosecurity incidents that occurred before the 1 October 2026.

Key details of the *Biosecurity (Reportable Biosecurity Incidents) Determination 2026*

Definitions

- The definitions of 'import permit', 'manifest' and 'relevant goods' have been revised, and a new definition for 'container' has been added.
- These changes do not alter existing operational requirements.

Reporting requirements

- There is one circumstance in which a report is no longer required. This is where:
 - a container, conveyance, other premises, or packaging containing the goods is damaged and, because of the damage, the goods are no longer secure and the damage does not result in a risk of harm to human, animal or plant health or the environment.

Reportable biosecurity incidents

- Events that are reportable biosecurity incidents are now split into two separate sections.
- Section 6 sets out reportable biosecurity incidents arising from the biosecurity risk associated with relevant goods, for example:
 - the relevant goods are not as described in a manifest, or an import permit, relating to the goods.

- Section 7 sets out reportable biosecurity incidents arising from the interaction between relevant goods and other goods or things, for example:
 - the relevant goods are exposed to contamination, infestation or infection from other types of goods.
- There are also two new events under section 7 that are now reportable biosecurity incidents. These are where:
 - the relevant goods are exposed to a live pest or disease agent, and the exposure results in infestation or infection of the relevant goods; or
 - the relevant goods are infected with a disease agent, or are contaminated with animal material, plant material or soil, except where this is authorised by an import permit.

Oral and written reports

- The process for oral reports has also changed. Where an oral report is made, there is no longer a requirement to also provide a written report.

More information

The Determination and accompanying Explanatory Statement are available on the [Federal Register of Legislation](#).

Learn more about the department's [biosecurity legislation](#).

Email biosecuritylegislationfeedback@aff.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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