



Edmund Barton Building Barton ACT
GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601
ph +61 2 6272 5085 fax +61 2 6272 3307
www.affa.gov.au/BiosecurityAustralia
ABN 24 113 085 695



Department of
**AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY –
AUSTRALIA**

30 June 2003

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/16

PRAWNS AND PRAWN PRODUCTS IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS

PROGRESS REPORT

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with a progress report on the import risk analysis (IRA) of prawns and prawn products. It also seeks recommendations for a replacement member of the risk analysis panel.

The last progress report for this IRA was ABPM 2002/32 of 24 June 2002. Since that time the risk analysis panel, with support from staff within Biosecurity Australia, has continued work on the revision of the draft IRA report. This has included work on issues raised in stakeholder comments on the first draft, as well as refining the methodology for the risk analysis. The panel has gathered further information on the risks presented by exotic diseases such as white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) and on the use of bait and berley use by recreational fishers.

Biosecurity Australia released advice on the survey of bait and berley use in Australia via ABPM 2003/11 on 2 April 2003. The survey is the first of its kind in Australia and, we understand, in the world. It looked at the number of fishers, acquisition sources, estimated quantities used, purchase form (live, whole, dead etc), region where used, environment where used (salt or fresh water) and season of use for all common bait species. (The survey is available from the Biosecurity Australia website: www.affa.gov.au/animalbiosecurity via the following web pages: Import Risk Analyses/Current Animal IRAs/Prawns and Prawn Products Reference Documents. Hard copies of the survey are available upon request from the contact officer listed below. The risk analysis panel is taking into account information from the survey as it develops the revised draft IRA report.

The last formal meeting of the risk analysis panel was held on 24 March 2003. Dr Richard Callinan has recently resigned from the panel due to other commitments. Biosecurity Australia and the other members of the panel acknowledge the major contribution and commitment that Dr Callinan has made to the IRA.

The panel considers a replacement for Dr Callinan will be necessary, and on behalf of the panel, Biosecurity Australia is seeking suggestions of suitably qualified individuals who may be considered. As a Senior Pathologist with NSW Fisheries, Dr Callinan was able to contribute his expertise in crustacean diseases and aquaculture to the panel's work. It is hoped that an expert with similar relevant skills can be identified to join the panel. The current membership is:

Name	Organisation	Expertise
Dr David Banks (<i>Chair</i>)	General Manager, Animal Biosecurity	Risk analysis/ quarantine
Mr Glenn Hurry	Fisheries and Aquaculture, AFFA	Aquaculture
Dr Leigh Owens	James Cook University	Crustacean diseases
Dr Peter Beers (<i>Secretary</i>)	Manager, Animal Biosecurity	Aquatic animal biosecurity

For further information on the criteria for risk analysis panel members please see Biosecurity Australia's website or contact the officer below.

Next Steps

We would welcome nominations of suitably qualified people who may be able to serve of the risk analysis panel as a replacement for Dr Callinan. We would appreciate details of the expertise and experience of those nominated.

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer.

Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to ABPMs will be publicly available. Comments 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.

DAVID BANKS
General Manager
Animal Biosecurity

Contact officer:	Warren Vant
Telephone no:	(02) 6272 4436
Facsimile no:	(02) 6272 3399
E-mail	warren.vant@affa.gov.au