



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

30 March 2006

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2006/07

ASSESSMENT OF THE BIOSECURITY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPORTATION OF RAINBOWFISH FOR ORNAMENTAL PURPOSES

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) advises stakeholders of the commencement of a policy review of the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of rainbowfish as ornamental fish. Biosecurity Australia is also inviting expressions of interest from individuals or organisations with expertise in aquatic animal health to assist with this review.

Australia currently allows the importation of some species of ornamental fish, subject to appropriate quarantine measures. Biosecurity Australia is now commencing a review of current import policy to consider the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of rainbowfish as ornamental fish (i.e. all members of the Family Melanotaeniidae).

The Australian Government Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH) has recently added *Glossolepis incicus* (Red rainbowfish) to its *List of specimens suitable for live import*. Biosecurity Australia has received import access requests from an organisation interested in importing several other species of Melanotaeniidae. These species were not included in the 1999 import risk analysis of ornamental finfish.

To assist with the policy review Biosecurity Australia is inviting expressions of interests from those with expertise in aquatic animal health to produce an up-to-date risk assessment report, identifying, describing and assessing the infectious pest and disease agents associated with rainbowfish. The terms of reference for the expression of interest are on the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website (www.daff.gov.au/tenders).

Consultation

For further information on the policy review please contact the officer below. Details on the expression of interest are on website above.

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 (details below).

Information on import risk analyses and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available from our website www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au

Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to 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 1988*.

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 1982*.

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