



30 August 2022

ANNOUNCEMENT INFORMATION PAPER – COMMENCEMENT OF A REVIEW OF BIOSECURITY IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESH PASSIONFRUIT FROM VIETNAM

The commencement of this risk analysis is in response to a market access request for fresh passionfruit (*Passiflora edulis*) fruit for human consumption from Vietnam.

There are two types of risk analyses used by the department:

- a Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis (BIRA), which is conducted through a regulated process provided for in the [Biosecurity Act 2015](#) and the [Biosecurity Regulation 2016](#)
- a review of biosecurity import requirements for the purposes of Section 174 of the Biosecurity Act.

A preliminary assessment of the pests associated with passionfruit from Vietnam has identified that the potential pests of biosecurity concern are the same as, or similar to, pests that have been assessed previously by Australia on other horticultural commodities, and do not pose significantly different biosecurity risks.

Given the similar pests of concern, and that there are appropriate risk management measures already established for these pests or pest groups, the risk analysis for passionfruit from Vietnam will be progressed as a review of biosecurity import requirements, consistent with the [Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis Guidelines 2016](#).

Passionfruit

Passionfruit is a flowering perennial vine in the family Passifloraceae. It is valued for the pulp (aril) and seeds of the fruit and is cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions around the world.

Commodity to be assessed

The risk analysis will cover fresh passionfruit for human consumption from Vietnam.

Passionfruit typically have a purple, red or yellow rind surrounding the edible pulp and seeds. The interior of the fruit is consumed fresh or as juice and is a popular dessert ingredient.

Passionfruit in Vietnam

In 2019, Vietnam produced 222,200 tonnes of passionfruit from a growing area of 10,500 ha. Passionfruit are harvested year-round in both the southern and northern provinces, however the main harvest season in the northern provinces occurs from May to December.



Australian passionfruit imports

Australia has an import policy in place for fresh passionfruit from New Zealand. All imports must meet Australia's biosecurity import conditions.

Since 2015, Australia has imported 2,484 kg of passionfruit from New Zealand. These imports occurred in 2017 (724 kg) and 2021 (1,760 kg).

Passionfruit industry in Australia

The Australian passionfruit industry produces approximately 5,000 tonnes of passionfruit per annum. The total growing area in 2019 was approximately 280 ha.

Most of Australia's passionfruit is grown in Queensland, including in the Cooktown/Daintree, Mareeba, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast regions. Passionfruit is also grown in the Tweed Valley region of NSW, with smaller volumes grown in other mainland states and the Northern Territory.

Australian passionfruit is grown year-round with peak production from December through to September. Producers currently focus on supplying the domestic market, with minimal to no exports.

Trade between Australia and Vietnam

Vietnam is Australia's 13th largest trading partner with two-way goods and services totalling \$15.8 billion in 2020-21.

Preliminary assessment of passionfruit from Vietnam

A preliminary assessment of the pests associated with passionfruit from Vietnam has identified a range of pest species likely to require further pest risk assessment. These include fruit flies, spider mites, mealybugs, thrips, scale insects and viruses.

Next steps

A draft report of this review of biosecurity import requirements is expected to be published on our website in 2023. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to submit comments on the draft report during a 60-day consultation period.

We will consider all stakeholder comments in the preparation of the final report.

The recommendations in the final report will reflect the completion of the risk analysis for fresh passionfruit from Vietnam. The recommended measures will have been assessed as scientifically sound and appropriate to manage any potential risks to Australia's biosecurity presented by the importation of fresh passionfruit from Vietnam.

If you would like to know more about this risk analysis or the risk analysis review process please email [imports](#) or phone 1800 900 090 (option 1, option 1).