



AusTreat Information Sessions 2025 - Questions and Answers

Is the new Methyl bromide fumigation methodology version 3.0 on the DAFF site to download?

Yes, the methyl bromide fumigation methodology version 3.0 is available on our webpage [‘Methodologies and documents for biosecurity treatments’](#).

Is ethyl formate available to use for the upcoming BMSB season?

Yes, ethyl formate is an approved BMSB treatment type and was implemented on 1 September 2025. Treatment providers must register under AusTreat to be able to conduct these treatments. The registration application form is available on our [AusTreat pre-border biosecurity treatment provider scheme](#) webpage.

Our heat chamber is very large and we use up to 12 temperature sensors. Are all 12 temperature sensors serial numbers required to be record in the treatment lodgement portal?

The treatment lodgement portal requires the datalogger serial number to be entered for heat treatments. If multiple dataloggers are used, the serial number for each datalogger is required to be entered and can be separate by using a comma (for example: 1245,1324,3173).

Will the number of temperature sensors required and how frequent the temperature is required to be recorded, be changed for sulfuryl fluoride treatments?

The Sulfuryl fluoride fumigation methodology is undergoing a review and the number of temperature sensors and frequency of temperature to be recorded will be considered as part of the review. Nothing changes for sulfuryl fluoride treatments at this stage, until the review process is complete and the methodology is officially updated.

Where do we upload the new equipment purchased (for example: new temperature sensors)?

The department must be notified of any new equipment purchased and used under a Treatment Provider’s AusTreat registration. Please send an email to offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au capturing the new equipment details, calibration certificate and/or purchase invoice, images of the equipment and serial number.

Do we send updated calibration certificates to offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au?

Yes, please send updated calibration certificates through to offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au.

Could GPS coordinates be provided instead of a street address in the treatment lodgement portal?

The physical street address and location must be detailed in the treatment lodgement portal and on the treatment certificate and record of fumigation/treatment.

Will the department accept internal calibration of temperature sensors?

We accept internally calibrated temperature sensors; however, the methodology used for internal calibrations must be provided. This methodology will be assessed to ensure its suitability. We



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recommend sending the methodology to offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au prior to conducting the calibration process to confirm that it will be accepted.

Is there a treatment certificate and record of fumigation that has dose rate readings in oz's?

No, not at this stage. You are welcome to adapt the standard templates for your circumstances, if the minimum requirements are included. The standard templated are available on our [Methodologies and documents for biosecurity treatments - DAFF](#) webpage.

I noticed the accreditation number on MB certificates. Is that our current licence number with our current regulatory board?

Yes, that is correct. In some countries where we have assurance schemes, operators are issued specific accreditation numbers by the government authorities. In other countries, it will be the licence number issued by the regulatory authorities.

As AusTreat registration is for a three-year period, are treatment providers required to provide any additional documentation during this period?

Yes, it is a treatment provider's responsibility to ensure devices requiring calibration are completed before the expiry date and the new calibration certificates provided to the department as soon as practical. In addition to this, any changes to company details such as staffing, technicians or new equipment should notified to the department by emailing offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au.

Has there been an issue with purchasing S-POTS? We have had back order since February of 2025 on equipment we ordered.

The department is unable to provide an update on this. We encourage you to reach out to the manufacturer to see if there are any production delays.

Are slides available online?

Yes, the slides of this presentation will be made available on our [AusTreat webpage](#).

If goods cannot be treated (due to reactions with chemicals), will there be an exemption application process to import?

Please reach out to Hitchhiker Pest Policy team at HPP@aff.gov.au to clarify the options available to you.

Will the recording be made available to attendees after the session?

We will distribute the recording to attendees after the event.

Are there any additional countries added on the high-risk countries?

Not at this stage. Updates and changes to BMSB measures for the upcoming season are highlighted on the [Seasonal measures for Brown marmorated stink bug \(BMSB\)](#) webpage.

The methodology of ethyl formate states that only one temperature sensor is needed for a container but for sulfuryl fluoride three temperature sensors are needed. Can you please explain why there is a difference?

As a new treatment, the Ethyl formate fumigation methodology (version 1.0) has been designed according to the research available and best practice (similar, where possible, to version 3.0 of the methyl bromide methodology). The Sulfuryl fluoride fumigation methodology was first published in 2018, and we will be working on reviewing this document and the requirements such as the temperature

monitoring as part of that review. We are happy to take any feedback from industry regarding those requirements as the review progresses.

Last year, you also introduced the possibility of considering a specific insecticide as a treatment. Are there any new developments in this regard?

At this stage, ethyl formate is the only new treatment option that is being made available for BMSB this season. That would mean the treatment options that are available for goods subject to BMSB measures are methyl bromide (where available), sulfuryl fluoride, heat and ethyl formate.

Why is the address so important? It's mentioned already on the certificate and the record. So having to repeat this again is more administrative workload for our team.

As part of regular verification, we've identified the need to gain additional assurance and clarity on the location that treatments are being conducted. As such we have incorporated this into the certificate lodgement portal.

Should treatment providers write the serial number of the monitoring device on the record of treatment during the fumigation?

Yes. For sulfuryl fluoride treatments, we recommend that the serial numbers of the monitoring devices used during the fumigation be recorded on the record of treatment to support the traceability and verification.

For the documentation of a treatment, is it necessary to state the address of the treatment area on the record of heat treatment?

Yes, as per section 4.1.2 of the heat treatment methodology the record must contain 'location—the site address where the treatment was performed'.

Is it necessary when recording a heat treatment to indicate the serial number of probes on the treatment certificate and record of treatment?

As per section 4.1.3, all monitoring readings must be documented and included as an attachment to the Record of Heat Treatment. The time, temperature and humidity (where relevant) of each reading must be documented and the location and identification of the sensor must be clearly stated. Identification of the sensor can be done via labels or use of a serial number.

Is the department looking at implementing system enhancements to the treatment lodgement portal to make entering a treatment certificate easier for treatment providers?

We continue to work with our IT team to address the concerns raised by industry. We appreciate your patience as we continue to work through this. We are still working to develop an API to assist in streamlining entering information into the Portal, and we hope to be in a position later this season to progress this work further.

As we are now requested to fill in the serial numbers of data loggers to the treatment lodgement portal, is it possible to fill in more than one serial number? For our heat treatments we have two devices necessary for the logging of data.

We recommend for those fields where multiple devices are being used that the serial numbers be separated with a comma. E.g. SN1, SN2, SN3.

Are treatment providers required to lodge treatment certificates in the treatment lodgement portal outside the BMSB risk season?

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Yes, as per section 2.3.1 of the AusTreat Policy the treatment provider must lodge a copy of all treatment documentation issued for all Australian bound consignments to the department via the portal.

In regards to the survey 'The future of biosecurity fumigation: discussion paper' - when imposing monitoring devices requirements, you should consider 1 measurement point per container, to make the investment realistic. For example, if you have a 16-zone monitoring device, you can do 16 containers at the same time instead of 5. This will make a huge difference in the implementation of these technologies.

Thank you for this feedback. This is a common point of feedback we have heard through the 'The future of biosecurity fumigation: discussion paper' survey and consultation period – we will consider it further.

Is it enough to read [gas concentrations] from 3 points when it comes to khapra beetles?

Yes - the requirements for khapra beetle treatments changed recently so the fourth monitoring line underneath the container is no longer required. Three monitoring lines are required as per existing Methyl bromide fumigation methodology requirements.

Will the BMSB-SF fumigation certification template for this season will be updated?

The template on our website will remain as is until the SF review is completed. You are welcome to adapt the templates as required as long as all the minimum fields and declarations are included as per the Sulfuryl fluoride treatment methodology and import conditions.

Are treatment providers required to take temperature readings every 15 minutes for methyl bromide fumigations and how many temperature sensor/data loggers are required?

Correct. For methyl bromide fumigations that are conducted as a controlled temperature fumigation (e.g. using a heater), the temperature must be monitored and recorded at least once every 15 minutes.

As per section 7.2 of the Methyl bromide fumigation methodology, for controlled temperature fumigations (e.g. where a heater is being used) a minimum of one temperature instrument must be used.

Could the department publish a prefilled example template for the new certificate?

In the '[Guide to performing QPS fumigations with methyl bromide](#)' published on our website, you can find instruction on how to fill out the template under *Section 12 - Documentation*.

There is a new clause in the MB fumigation methodology where if there are multiple containers under sheet and one of them fails but the others in the enclosure pass, the containers which passed are approved. For my understanding, if two or three of the containers also fail while the rest are successful are we still allowed to approve those successful fumigations?

As per section 9.2.2 the fumigator may only fail one single container in the sheeted enclosure and pass the remainder if they otherwise meet the requirements. So, if multiple containers under sheet fail, all the containers fail.

Is Khapra beetle all year around, or just during the BMSB season?

Khapra beetle is not a seasonal pest, therefore the khapra measures apply all year round.

Thank you for attending the AusTreat information session 2025 and for your questions. Please contact offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au if you have any additional questions or need further clarification on our answers.

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More information

Learn more about [AusTreat pre-border biosecurity treatment provider scheme](#)

Web <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/before/brown-marmorated-stink-bugs>

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/arrival/treatments/treatments-fumigants>

Email offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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