SUBMISSION TO THE ‘DRAFT REPORT FOR THE REVIEW OF BIOSECURITY IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESH CHINESE JUJUBE FRUIT FROM CHINA’

Dear Marion,

I refer to Biosecurity Advice 2019/P04 dated 18 March 2019, inviting comment on the Draft report for the review of biosecurity import requirements for fresh Chinese jujube fruit from China.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has considered the draft report and welcomes DAWRs ongoing recognition of WA prohibited organisms (s12) as regional pests. DPIRD will support the findings of this review pending resolution of the comments in the attached document.

Western Australia continues to take a strong interest in all import risk analyses and any related documents and decisions made by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the matter further please contact Marc Poole on (08) 9368 3224 or marc.poole@agric.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,


Dr Sonya Broughton
Chief Plant Biosecurity Officer

ATTACHMENT 1: DPIRD Submission – Jujube China
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Submission:

Draft report for the review of biosecurity import requirements for fresh Chinese jujube fruit from China

16 May 2019
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**Introduction**

Western Australia remains relatively free from many quarantine pests present in other parts of Australia or in other countries. The state’s geographical isolation in conjunction with a robust plant biosecurity system—including border quarantine checkpoints, inter- and intrastate regulatory controls, industry and public awareness campaigns, and specific and general surveillance programs—help maintain this status.

Under the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007* (BAM Act), the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) administers general and specific legislative requirements, which underpin plant biosecurity in Western Australia. This includes regulating the movement of potential carriers such as plant material, machinery and seeds into and within the state.

Plants and plant products may be imported into the state subject to general import conditions, with specified import conditions for commodities or pests where appropriate. Underpinning these general and specific import conditions is the legislative requirement for all potential carriers to be presented for inspection upon entry into Western Australia. The detection of any quarantine pests during an inspection results in remedial action.

Ongoing surveillance systems are also in operation in Western Australia with targeted surveillance activities operating alongside an effective passive surveillance program. These result in suspect samples submitted for identification to the DPIRD Diagnostic Laboratory Services or the Pest and Disease Information Service.

Biosecurity concerns are communicated through a variety of platforms to growers and the wider community ensuring public awareness of current issues. DPIRD also utilises a range of extension opportunities to raise awareness in the Western Australian community to report anything unusual.

DPIRD’s MyPestGuide (online and mobile application) assists industry and the community to identify and report the presence of pests and diseases. Industry awareness and participation is also achieved via programs such as HortGuard and GrainGuard, and includes the development of industry biosecurity plans and other extension material.

In maintaining Western Australia’s freedom from quarantine pests DPIRD continues to take a strong interest in all biosecurity risk analyses and related documents and decisions made by the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.
General Comments

DPIRD welcomes DAWR’s decision to consider *Dothiorella gregaria* (*Neofusicoccum ribis*) and *Erwinia jujubovora* further in the categorisation process as quarantine pests in Australia (Mathew Smyth’s email to Marc Poole 10 May 2019).

Pathology comments regarding the categorisation of pests associated with fresh Chinese jujubes

*Neofusicoccum ribis* (Slippers, Crous & M.J. Wingf.) Crous, Slippers & A.J.L. Phillips 2006
Synonyms: *Dothiorella gregaria* Sacc.; *Botryosphaeria ribis* Grossenb. & Duggar. [Botryosphaeriales Botryosphaeriaceae] Fruit shrink disease

**Comment 1:** DPIRD welcomes DAWR’s decision to consider ‘*D. gregaria*’ which causes fruit shrink disease in Chinese jujube (Li, Zhang et al. 2005, Chen, Li et al. 2007, Zhang, Liu et al. 2008) further in the pest risk analysis given that *N. ribis* is considered absent from Australia (Sakalidis et al. 2013).

**Comment 2:** Given that *N. ribis* is only distributed in North America (Sakalidis et al. 2013), then the identity of the pathogen reported as *D. gregaria*, which causes fruit shrink disease in Chinese jujube (Li, Zhang et al. 2005, Chen, Li et al. 2007, Zhang, Liu et al. 2008) is brought into question?

**Comment 3:** Fruit shrink disease is one of the most serious jujube diseases, leading to poor fruit quality and dramatic yield reduction as severe as 100% of the marketable fruits (Zhang et al. 2008). This indicates that the pathogen causing fruit shrink disease has potential to be associated with the Chinese jujube fruit pathway and has potential economic consequences should it establish in Australia.

**Recommendation 1:** DPIRD requests that the identity of the pathogen reported as *D. gregaria* which causes fruit shrink disease in Chinese jujube (Li, Zhang et al. 2005, Chen, Li et al. 2007, Zhang, Liu et al. 2008) be further investigated.

*Macrophoma kuwatsukai* Hara 1930

**Comment 1:** In DPIRDs submission to the PCT “DPIRD SUBMISSION - ATT C - Chinese jujube China” on 17/12/2018 DPIRD suggested *M. kuwatsukai* to be added to the pest categorisation table (PCT). DAWR claimed in the “Response to WA comments on PCT” that it was included in PCT as a teleomorph of *Botryosphaeria dothidea*, which is present in Australia.

However, *Macrophoma kuwatsukai* (=*Botryosphaeria kuwatsukai*) has now been well established as a different species from *B. dothidea* (EFSA Panel on Plant Health et al. 2017; Wang et al. 2018), although *B. kuwatsukai* was always confounded with *B. dothidea* (Xu et al. 2015), which has been now recognised as a species complex (Slippers et al. 2004).

**Comment 2:** Both *B. kuwatsukai* and *B. dothidea* have been identified as fungi causing winter jujube ring grain disease in 2005 (Ji et al.) and 2014 (Liu and Wang) respectively. This means the causing pathogen may be one of them, or both of them as in apple (Xu et al.)
As well as causing winter jujube (major fresh Chinese jujube variety in China) ring grain disease (Fan and Wang 2017), *B. kuwatsukai* causes fruit rot and wart bark on apple and pear (Xu et al. 2015). *Botryosphaeria kuwatsukai* has been assessed as an EU quarantine pest (EFSA Panel on Plant Health et al. 2017). This indicates that *B. kuwatsukai* (=*M. kuwatsukai*) has potential to be associated with the Chinese jujube fruit pathway and has potential economic consequences should it establish in Australia.

**Recommendation 1:** DPIRD requests that *M. kuwatsukai* be added into the PCT as in EFSA Panel on Plant Health et al. (2017):

*Macrophoma kuwatsukai* Hara 1930

Synonyms: *Botryosphaeria kuwatsukai* (Hara) G.Y. Sun & E. Tanaka (2015); *Physalospora pyricola* Nose (1933); *Guignardia pyricola* (Nose) W. Yamamoto (1961); *Botryosphaeria berengeriana* De Notaris f. sp. *pyricola* Koganezawa & Sakuma (1984)

**Recommendation 2:** DPIRD requests that taxonomic status of *M. kuwatsukai* be further investigated.

**Recommendation 3:** DPIRD requests that *M. kuwatsukai* be further assessed in the pest risk analysis.

*S. streptothrix* (Cooke & Ellis) Seifert & L.M. Kohn 2014

Anamorph: *Botrytis streptothrix* (Cooke & Ellis) Sacc. Synonym: *Polyactis streptothrix* Cooke & Ellis; *Streptobotrys streptothrix* (Cooke & Ellis) Hennebert [Helotiales: Sclerotiniaceae] Blight

**Comment 1:** In DPIRDs submission to the PCT “DPIRD SUBMISSION - ATT C - Chinese jujube China” on 17/12/2018 DPIRD suggested to change the justification on ‘Potential to be on pathway’ from

“No. Causes leaf blight on Indian jujube (*Z. mauritiana*) (Yuan, Li et al. 2009, Horst 2013). No report of an association with Chinese jujube (*Z. jujuba*) was found”

to

“No. Causes leaf blight on Indian jujube (*Z. mauritiana*) (Horst 2013) and fruit brown rot in Indian jujube (*Yuan, Li et al. 2009*). No report of an association with Chinese jujube (*Z. jujuba*) was found.”

DAWR agreed with the proposed change and stated “*Some minor edits have been made to reflect this information in the PCT*” in DAWR’s “Response to WA comments on PCT”, however, the change has not been made.

**Recommendation 1:** DPIRD requests that the proposed change be made.


