# Heat Treatment

Minimum requirements for heat treating sea containers to address the risk of khapra beetle.

**This information applies to FCL/FCX containers where…**

1. [high-risk plant products](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/khapra-beetle/plant-products#list-of-highrisk-plant-products) are packed into the sea container in a [khapra beetle target risk country](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/khapra-beetle/urgent-actions#list-of-khapra-beetle-target-risk-countries).
2. other goods are packed into the sea container in a khapra beetle target risk country and will be unpacked in a [rural khapra risk area](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/khapra-beetle/sea-container-measures#measures-for-sea-containers-unpacked-in-a-rural-khapra-risk-postcode) of Australia.

**Containers must be heat treated…**

* at 60oC or above
* for a minimum of 3 hours
* prior to packing the goods in the container
* under a sheeted enclosure on a hard and flat surface
* with one door open…
* and the other door closed
* with at least 1 sensor in the hinge of the closed door, in the bottom corner underneath the rubber seal
* in accordance with [Heat Treatment Methodology](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/arrival/treatments/treatments-fumigants#heat-treatment).

Important: Containers must be treated within 21 days prior to export from the target risk country.

**Make sure…**

You provide a treatment certificate, even if a phytosanitary certificate is provided.

The treatment certificate meets the requirements in [BICON](https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/) and the [Heat Treatment Methodology](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/arrival/treatments/treatments-fumigants#heat-treatment).

You use the treatment certificate [template](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/arrival/treatments/treatments-fumigants#heat-treatment).

**Temperature sensor requirements**

For individual 20ft and 40ft sea container treatments, a minimum of 5 temperature sensors must be used to monitor the treatment. The sensors must be positioned:

| Sensor number | Sensor position |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | **Door hinge of closed door:** in the bottom corner of the door hinge, underneath the rubber seal. |
| 2 & 3 | **Surface:** on the coldest surface of the container, away from the heat source. |
| 4 & 5 | **Free airspace:** in the coldest ambient air space, away from the heat source. |

**Treatment providers**

We strongly encourage you to use a treatment provider that is [registered with the department](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/before/prepare/treatment-outside-australia/offshore-treatment-providers).

For information on how to register, email us at: [offshoretreatments@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:offshoretreatments@agriculture.gov.au)

Website: [agriculture.gov.au/khapra-urgent-actions](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/khapra-beetle/urgent-actions)

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