



Importing Animal Feed into Australia



Do I need a permit? You must apply for a permit to import animal feed into Australia unless the goods meet import conditions listed in the Biosecurity (Conditionally Non-prohibited Goods) Determination 2021

To apply you need to:

1. ask the manufacturer to complete our production questionnaire
2. submit the completed questionnaire with your permit application in the BICON system.

Assessing the application

When we receive your application, we will:

1. review the information provided in support of your application, assessing whether the manufacturing, storage and transportation processes addresses the associated biosecurity risks to meet the appropriate level of protection for Australia. You may be asked to provide further information for the assessment
2. Determine if a desk audit and/or on-site verification audit or both are required. Importers will be notified if an audit is required for the commodity before proceeding. Audit requirements are based on pre-established policy.

To review whether your commodity may be subject to audit, please contact the department at imports@aff.gov.au

Desk audit

You will need to ask the manufacturer and any other overseas facility that manufactures, store, handles, transport and/or exports the product, to complete our commodity specific audit questionnaire.

We will assess the information provided against the commodity requirements to ensure the biosecurity risks are managed at every step of the import pathway. Any non-conformities identified must be addressed to our requirements before proceeding further.

We will then either:

- a. finalise and make a decision about the application, or
- b. proceed to a site audit.

Site audit

A site audit is undertaken to confirm the findings of the desk audit and verify that the biosecurity risks are mitigated to an acceptable level before export. This involves reviewing the facility's processes and records, and inspecting as necessary the farm production, manufacturing, storage, and transport of bulk plant-based animal feeds.



No audit required

We will finalise the application.



You will be charged additional fees where the assessment of your application takes longer than 3-hours or if a desk or site audit is required. Learn about our [assessment fees and charges](#).



No site audit required

We will finalise the application.

Import not approved

- Goods will be refused if they do not meet Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP).
- The department may also refuse to grant a permit if we have received insufficient information for our assessment.



Import approved

Depending what we find in our biosecurity assessments, we will either grant or refuse to issue a permit. Any fees paid are non-refundable.



Application decision



Arrival in Australia

Upon arrival of the goods in Australia, the department will:

1. check your import permit and consignment documentation. Where valid documentation is not supplied we may hold the consignment until the correct paperwork can be provided. If the goods arrive without a valid import permit or alternative conditions they may be re-exported or destroyed.
2. inspect the goods for live insects and plant and animal biosecurity risk material if the import conditions require. Where biosecurity risk material is found we will send it for assessment. We may also collect samples for testing. Depending on what we find at inspection, the goods are either released to the importer, or they are treated, exported, or destroyed.

