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REFERENCE

# Plant exports guide—bulk woodchips inspection techniques

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## Purpose of this document

This document has been written for authorised officers (AOs) as a reference guide on techniques to use when inspecting bulk woodchips for export.

## General notes on inspecting bulk woodchips

Bulk woodchips presented for export inspection can only be sampled during the loading of containers or vessels.

Subsamples can be combined, provided that no more than one litre is screened at any time.

Inspect all samples using suitable equipment.

Perform the inspection in an area that has adequate light and is not compromised by the environment.

## Inspecting bulk woodchips

The following table illustrates and describes various methods of taking samples of bulk woodchips for inspection.

| What does this look like | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Large piles of woodchips in an outdoor setting with loaders visible in the background. | **Bulk woodchips**  Bulk woodchips in piles from which they are loaded. |
| An officer pouring the woodchips sample from a white plastic bucket into a sieve | **Sampling**  An authorised officer poured the woodchips sample from a white plastic bucket into a sieve. |
| An officer shaking the sieve to enable woodchips to move across the mesh. | **Sieving technique**  The sieve is sufficiently shaken to enable the woodchips to move across the mesh for effective sieving. |
| An officer shaking the sieve to allow small particles fall into the pan. | **Inspection of material on the pan**  Shaking allows small particles to fall through the sieve to the pan. |
| An officer examining the surface of woodchips to identify any pest or contaminant that have not passed through the sieve. | **Surface examination of woodchips**  The surface of the woodchips is examined to identify any pests or contaminants that have not passed through the sieve. |
| An officer examining all pan contents for pests and contaminants. | **Examination of pan contents**  All contents in the pan are examined for pests and contaminants. |
| An officer closely examining small pests by using a torch and hand lens. | **Pest examination**  Small pests are examined closely by using a torch and hand lens. |
| An officer returning the inspected samples to the product source. | **Return samples to product source**  The inspected samples are returned to the product source, if requested by the client. |

## Related material

* *Export Control Act 2020*
* Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Rules 2021
* [Manual of Importing Country Requirement (Micor– Plants)](https://micor.agriculture.gov.au/Plants/pages/default.aspx)
* [Plant exports operations manual (PEOM)](http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual/)
* Guideline: *Inspection of forest products for export*
* Work Instruction: *Inspecting forest products for export*
* Reference: *Plant exports guide – equipment*
* Reference: *Plant exports guide – specimen collection*

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* Grain and Seed Exports Program: [Grain.Export@aff.gov.au](mailto:Grain.Export@aff.gov.au)

## Document information

The following table contains administrative metadata.

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## Version history

The following table details the published date and amendment details for this document.

| Version | Date | Amendment details |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.0 | 11/03/2020 | First publication of this reference. |
| 2.0 | 2/07/2021 | Document re-published from IML Archive with no changes. |
| 3.0 | 20/12/2016 | Updated document to match current template. Updated related materials section to current documents. |
| 4 | 18/01/2024 | Updated document formatting, department branding and emails. |