



March
2021

Outline of the Export Control (Miscellaneous) Rules 2021

Improved agricultural export legislation



Introduction

Australia's new agricultural export legislation began on 28 March 2021. It comprises the *Export Control Act 2020* (the Act), and the *Export Control Rules 2021* (the Rules) which set out the operational requirements that must be met to export specific goods from Australia (e.g. non prescribed goods).

The *Export Control (Miscellaneous) Rules 2021* (Miscellaneous Rules) authorise the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, to arrange for a computer program to issue a government certificate for non-prescribed goods. The Miscellaneous Rules should be read with the Act.

Government certificates will be issued by the department's computer program known as the Export Documentation System or 'EXDOC'. The Miscellaneous Rules states that the people who may use the computer program are:

- a person who applies for a government certificate under subsection 65(1) of the Act
- an APS employee in the department
- a person performing services for the department under a contract who has been authorised to access the computer program.

The person using the computer program will need to be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the information they enter into the system is true and correct and make sure it is accurately entered.

If all the requirements are met, EXDOC will automatically issue a government certificate for the relevant goods.

The Secretary may make a decision that overrides a computer program's issuing of a government certificate in circumstances where the computer program is considered to have made an incorrect decision.

Further information

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