

Our ref: CTS 11426/24

16 July 2024

Mrs Monica Collins
First Assistant Secretary
Biosecurity Plant and Science Services Division
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au

Dear Mrs Collins

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2024 inviting submissions on the 'Draft report for pomelo fruit from Vietnam: biosecurity import requirements' (the draft report).

The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has reviewed the draft report and notes that the Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has identified 19 pest species of biosecurity concern for Australia that have the potential to be associated with fresh pomelo fruit from Vietnam. My department agrees that the unrestricted risk estimates for these pests exceed Australia's appropriate level of protection, and therefore, additional biosecurity measures to mitigate these risks are required.

It is noted that DAFF has proposed risk mitigation measures for these pests that are consistent with the existing import policies for similar pests associated with various fresh fruit from several countries, including China, Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, the United States of America, and Vietnam.

DAF supports the risk mitigation measures proposed in the draft report, including pest-free areas or pest-free places of production or fruit treatment for fruit flies and Asian citrus psyllid; a systems approach approved by DAFF for citrus canker and Asian citrus psyllid; and pre-export visual inspection and remedial action for thrips species, spider mites, mealybugs, false spider mite and scale insects, if detected.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft report. DAF appreciates being involved in any further review processes leading to the finalisation of this report and being kept informed of any potential biosecurity risks identified after the policy is in place.

If you require further information, please contact Dr Abu-Baker Siddique, Plant Biosecurity and Product Integrity, Biosecurity Queensland in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on 0422 348 033 or email at Abu-baker.Siddique@daf.qld.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Bolton', written over a large, simple, hand-drawn triangle.

Mr Graeme Bolton
Director-General
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries