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## **ANIMAL QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 1998/13**

Chief Veterinary Officers, all States and the NT  
Director, Animal and Plant Health Branch, BRS  
Chief, CSIRO Division of Animal Health

National Farmers' Federation  
Australian Livestock Exporters' Council  
National Meat Association of Australia

Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Australia, Environment  
Australia

Veterinary Counsellors, Australian Embassies,  
Washington, Brussels and Seoul  
Agricultural Counsellor, Australian Embassy, Tokyo

Office of the Australian CVO  
Manager, Animal Programs Section, AQIS Operations  
Head, Foreign Diseases Unit, DPIE  
Australian Animal Health Council  
Quarantine and Animal Health Task Force, NFF  
Australian Veterinary Association

Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks  
and Aquaria

EU Delegation, Canberra

### **IMPORT RISK ANALYSES: ZOO BOVIDAE AND MARSUPIALS AND MONOTREMES**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF APPROACH**

Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) 1997/79 sought stakeholder comments on the approach for the import risk analysis (IRA) for the revision of conditions for the importation of zoo bovidae while AQPM 1997/81 sought comment on marsupials and monotremes.

Stakeholder comments were appreciated.

Nine stakeholders responded to the zoo bovidae AQPM and there was general support for the routine approach. To clarify a possible misunderstanding over the scope of this review which has been drawn to our attention by one stakeholder, the IRA is not limited to reviewing bluetongue and epizootic haemorrhagic disease requirements. While the review was initiated by the need to change these requirements, the IRA will also review the existing policy relating to other diseases to confirm that they continue to be appropriate.

Nine stakeholders also responded to the marsupials and monotremes AQPM where there was also general support for the routine approach. There were some queries whether this should be a non-routine IRA for reasons of potential implications for native wildlife,

the need for external expertise and given the review will increase restrictions. These issues have been considered and as a routine risk analysis is not in any way less scientific than the non-routine approach we are of the view that these concerns will be properly addressed by the routine analysis. If necessary, a routine IRA can draw on external expertise to address specific elements of the analysis.

Following consideration of stakeholder comments the Executive Director of AQIS has confirmed the routine approach for both these IRAs.

The IRA process for zoo bovidae will be placed on hold pending the outcome of OIE consideration of the new Animal Health Code Chapter on bluetongue. This will have a major bearing on Australia's bluetongue policy and consequentially the zoo bovidae IRA.

The next step in the marsupials and monotremes IRA process will be the release, for stakeholder comment, of the draft risk analysis paper which is planned for April 1998.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office should you require any further information on these IRAs.

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Animal Quarantine Policy Branch

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