



13 March 2000

PLANT QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 2000/01

PLANT QUARANTINE POLICY BRANCH: UPDATE ON IMPORT RISK ANALYSES

This Plant Quarantine Policy Memorandum (PQPM) provides a list of import access proposals received by AQIS. It also contains a status report on the Branch's import risk analysis (IRA) work program and describes changes to the presentation of correspondence to the form of PQPMs.

Current import access proposals

Each year AQIS receives many proposals to import agricultural commodities. AQIS maintains a register of these requests and as resources become available the highest priority requests are commenced. In deciding priority, AQIS takes into account factors such as the availability of data, the order of receipt of proposals, the breadth and nature of interest in the establishment of new or revised conditions, the need to consider access by a particular date, as well as stakeholder comment. The current list of import access proposals is at Attachment A. Stakeholders may now offer information and comment on the priority they consider should be accorded by AQIS to each proposal.

Current IRA work program

A list of the Branch's current IRA work program is provided at Attachment B. Currently there are 19 plant and grain IRAs under way. A determination has been made in two of these IRAs but the application of import policy is pending the outcome of the appeal process. There have been delays in the process for some IRAs for a variety of reasons, some of which are identified in comments provided in the attached document.

The change to Plant Quarantine Policy Memorandums.

To ensure consistency between the Plant and Animal Quarantine Policy Branches of AQIS in conducting IRAs, the format for providing information on plant issues to stakeholders will be changed. Stakeholders have until now received personally addressed letters regarding the process for each IRA. Commencing with this document a numbered memoranda series called Plant Quarantine Policy Memorandums (PQPMs) will be introduced. This change in format will not reduce the amount of information provided to stakeholders.

For more information or if you wish to be placed on a mailing list for a particular IRA, please contact the Import Risk Analysis Secretariat whose details appear below. In addition to the attached information I also recommend that you regularly check our homepage for information on plant quarantine issues: <http://www.aqis.gov.au/docs/plpolicy/plhome1.htm>

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**PLANT QUARANTINE POLICY BRANCH
IMPORT ACCESS PROPOSALS NOT YET COMMENCED**

Request	Policy	Date
Argentina 1. Dried grapes on stem 2. Lucerne seed (sowing)	New New	1995
Brazil 3. Mangoes 4. Papaya	New New	1999 1999
Canada 5. Apples 6. Cherries	New	pre 1994 pre 1994
Chile 7. Apples 8. Kiwifruit 9. Stonefruit	New New New	1996 1996 1993
China 10. Lychee / Longans	New	1991
Colombia 11. Fresh avocados with seed 12. Cut flowers	New New	1999 1999
Egypt 13. Mangoes 14. Citrus 15. Okra	New New New	1999 1996
Equador 16. Bananas	New	1996
EU 17. Cotton seed (sowing) 18. Sorghum seed (sowing) 19. Sunflower seed (sowing) 20. Maize seed (sowing) 21. Lucerne seed (sowing)	New New New New Revise	1987 1988

Fiji		
22. Mangoes	New	1994
23. Eggplant	New	1994
24. Breadfruit	New	1994
25. Jackfruit	New	1994
26. Duruka	New	1994
27. Bittergourd	New	1994
Ghana		
28. Yams	New	1997
Global		
29. Chrysanthemums	New	Int Review
30. Coconuts	New	1994
31. Eucalyptus/ Acacia/Pinus	New	Int Review
32. Legume seed	New	1995
33. Strawberry prapogating material	New	Int Review
34. Asparagus	Revise	
35. Kiwifruit	Revise	
36. Forest tree germplasm	New	
37. Clonal grasses	Revise	
38. Olive plants	Revise	
Greece		
39. Kiwifruit	New	1996
India		
40. Mangoes	New	
Iran		
41. Kiwifruit	New	
Israel		
42. Lemons	New	1995
43. Persimmons	New	1995
Japan		
44. Citrus (unshu mandarin)	New	pre 1994
45. Persimmons	New	1989
46. Nectarine	New	1994
47. Table grapes	New	1994
48. Tangerines	New	pre 1994
49. Peaches	New	pre 1994

Korea 50. Apples 51. Citrus (unshu mikan) 52. Table grapes	New New New	1993 1994 1993
Malaysia 53. Papaya 54. Oranges	New New	1995 1994
Mexico 55. Mangoes	New	
New Zealand 56. Lucerne seed 57. Potatoes 58. Carnations 59. Boysenberries 60. Raspberries 61. Strawberries	New New New New New New	pre 1994 1991 1995 1990 1990 1990
Pakistan 62. Mangoes	New	1999
Philippines 63. Bananas/Plantains 64. Pineapples 65. Papaya	New New New	1995 1995 pre 1994
Puerto Rico 66. Mangoes	New	1994
Solomon Islands 67. Fruit and Vegetables (cucurbits, capsicum, yam, taro, pineapple)	New	1991
Sri Lanka 68. Pineapples	New	1999
Tahiti 69. Various flowers and fruits	New	1993

Thailand		
70. Mango/Mangosteen	New	1991
71. Okra	New	1996

USA		
72. Cherries	New	pre 1994
73. Stonefruit - Nectarines, Peaches & Plums	New	1994
74. Oranges	Revise	1991
75. Apples	New	1995
76. Blueberries	New	
77. Cranberries	New	
78. Pears	New	
79. Sunflower seed (sowing)	New	
80. Sorghum seed (sowing)	New	

Zimbabwe		
81. Strawberries	New	1994
82. Cut flowers	New	1999

**PLANT QUARANTINE POLICY BRANCH
IMPORT RISK ANALYSES CURRENTLY BEING PROGRESSED**

IRA (R) Routine (NR) Non Routine	Status	Next Steps
Allium (R)	Letter of 2 July 1999 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of draft IRA has been delayed as AQIS is progressing work on other IRAs that are considered a higher priority. Draft due for release in December 2000.
Apples, NZ (R)	Letter of 29 June 1999 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of draft IRA expected in May 2000.
Bulbs, Ornamental (NR)	Letter of 30 March 1999 distributing issues paper. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Draft IRA delayed due to the need to replace the chair of the RAP and three members of the TWG. Release of draft IRA expected in June 2000.
Citrus, Florida (R)	Letter of 10 August 1998 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of the draft is on hold as AQIS is waiting to receive additional information from the US on the spread of citrus canker in Florida. IRA will not be further progressed until this information is received.
Citrus, Italy (R)	Letter of 7 May 1999 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	As AQIS is currently conducting two other IRAs on citrus fruit, namely from Florida and South Africa, that are considered higher priorities, the IRA on citrus from Italy has been delayed. However, as a number of complex issues will have already been addressed in considering the other citrus IRAs, this will assist with the finalisation of the risk analysis process for citrus from Italy. Release of draft IRA expected in June 2000.
Citrus, South Africa (R)	Letter of 14 July 1998 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Draft IRA paper on hold pending receipt of additional information requested from the South African authorities. No further action is possible until this information is received.
Coniferous sawn timber & logs, Nth America (NR)	Letter of 24 Jan 2000 advising of RAP membership, scope and timing.	The first RAP meeting is scheduled for early March. At the meeting the RAP will decide on a technical secretariat, TWG members, and commence work on the issues paper. Issues paper is due for release May 2000
Durian, Thailand (R)	IRAAP announced decision regarding appeals on 24 February 2000.	AQIS to consult with stakeholders on issues raised by IRAAP and then advise the IRAAP of the outcome.
Lime, New Caledonia (R)	Letter of 18 May 1999 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of draft IRA delayed because of lack of information from New Caledonia. Due for release early-mid 2000.

IRA (R) Routine (NR) Non Routine	Status	Next Steps
Maize, USA (NR)	Draft IRA released 19 March 1999	As significant additional information was provided by stakeholders in response to the release of the draft IRA paper, AQIS will release a revised draft for further comment before finalising the IRA. The revised draft will be released in early March 2000 and stakeholders who provided comments on the first draft will be given 30 days to provide further comment.
Mushrooms (NR)	Issues paper released on 11 November 1999 and comments on the paper closed on 21 Jan 2000	The next RAP and TWG meetings will be held in early March. Scope of IRA changed to include spore and vegetative spawn.
Papaya, Fiji (R)	Stakeholders advised of delay on 18 May 1999.	Release of draft IRA delayed because AQIS is waiting to receive information from the Fijian Govt. No further action possible until this information is received.
Snow Peas, Africa (R)	Letter of 7 December 1998 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of draft IRA has been delayed as AQIS is progressing work on other IRAs that are considered a higher priority. Expected to be released mid 2000
Sweet Corn, Idaho USA (R)	Draft IRA released 6 Jan 2000	Comments closed 8 March 2000.
Table Grapes, California (R)	The final IRA was released on 14 January 2000 and the appeal period closed on 14 Feb 2000. Stakeholders advised that appeals have been received on 22 Feb 2000.	Appeals will be considered by an import risk analysis appeal panel (IRAAP).
Table Grapes, Chile (R)	Letter of 15 April 1999 on determination on type of process. Risk Analysis being conducted.	Release of draft IRA delayed because of delay in receiving information from Chile. Draft due for release April 2000.
Tomatoes, Netherlands (R)	Stakeholders advised of delay in letter of 29 July 1999 due to change in commodity pathway from individual fruits, to include fruits in truss	Draft due for release in April 2000
Wood packing materials, Asia (NR)	Letter of 24 Jan 2000 advising of RAP membership, scope and timing.	The first RAP meeting is scheduled for early March. At the meeting the RAP will decide on a technical secretariat, TWG members, and commence work on the issues paper. Issues paper is due for release May 2000
Yam Bean, Samoa (R)	Letter of 30 March 1999 on consultation on type of process.	IRA on hold pending receipt of additional information from the Samoan government. No further action is possible until this information is received.