



22 March 2000

PLANT QUARANTINE POLICY MEMORANDUM 2000/04

**IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS ON
SUNFLOWER SEED FOR SOWING FROM CALIFORNIA, USA**

This Plant Quarantine Policy Memorandum (PQPM) provides stakeholders with information regarding the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on the importation of sunflower seed for sowing from California, USA.

I am writing to formally notify you that the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) has received requests for imports into Australia of Californian sunflower seed for sowing which requires consideration under the *Quarantine Act 1908* and the *Quarantine Proclamation 1998*.

This letter is for information only. AQIS will decide whether an import risk analysis (IRA) should be initiated as a matter of priority. AQIS will prioritise proposals taking 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 comments. The priority assigned by AQIS to conduct an IRA on the import request is not subject to appeal.

In accordance with the IRA process outlined in the *AQIS Import Risk Analysis Process Handbook*, stakeholders may now, if they wish, offer information and comment on the priority that they consider should be accorded by AQIS to this import request. Comments should be forwarded to the IRA Secretariat at the following address by close of business Wednesday 12 April 2000:

Import Risk Analysis Secretariat
Plant Quarantine Policy Branch
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6272 5094
Fax: (02) 6272 3307
Email: plantquar@aqis.gov.au

Subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received with respect to an import request will be publicly available and may be listed, or referred to in papers, or reports prepared on the import request. If a request for anonymity does not accompany a submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the

disclosure of his, or her identity for the purposes of the *Privacy Act*. The contents of a submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

AQIS will establish a public file, which will contain non-confidential stakeholder comments and technical documentation, at the commencement of each IRA. The factors taken into account by AQIS in prioritising a particular import request will be identified in a statement placed on the public file for that request. These files will be held at AQIS headquarters in Canberra and will be available to stakeholders during business hours for perusal and copying. Please contact the Plant Quarantine Policy Branch IRA Secretariat at the above address if you wish to make an appointment to view the IRA public files. Information on all IRAs being conducted by the Plant Quarantine Policy Branch is available on the AQIS Homepage at <http://www.aqis.gov.au/docs/plpolicy/plhome1.htm>

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list for this IRA, if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, or if you would prefer distribution via email, please provide details to the Import Risk Analysis Secretariat at the above address. I ask that peak industry groups who receive this letter keep their affiliates informed of this IRA process.

AQIS will be writing to you again in the near future to advise of the priority accorded to this IRA. I look forward to your participation in the IRA process for the importation of sunflower seed for sowing from California, USA.

Brian Stynes
Assistant Director
Plant Quarantine Policy Branch

Contact:	Import Risk Analysis Secretariat
Telephone no:	02 6272 5094
Facsimile no:	02 6272 3307
E-mail:	plantquar@aqis.gov.au