



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



6 May 2002

## **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/19**

### **NON-VIABLE, NON-SALMONID FRESHWATER FINFISH IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS**

#### **RELEASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES PAPER**

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with the Technical Issues Paper (Attachment A) for the non-viable, non-salmonid freshwater finfish Import Risk Analysis (IRA), for consideration and comment. Comments would be appreciated by 8 July 2002.

This Technical Issues Paper is being released for public consultation as part of the IRA of non-viable non-salmonid freshwater finfish. Tighter interim conditions for these products were adopted in December 1999 by extending the policies for non-viable salmonid finfish and non-viable marine finfish that were established through IRAs concluded earlier in that year. At the time, we advised the interim measures would apply until an IRA on non-salmonid finfish caught in freshwater was concluded.

The IRA commenced in February 2000 (Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) 2000/08). It was proposed that the IRA be undertaken as a 'routine' analysis and this was subsequently confirmed in AQPM 2000/25 of 15 May 2000.

Biosecurity Australia is currently reviewing the IRA process and finalisation is expected by mid-2002. A draft framework document was circulated in September 2001 (ABPM 2001/26). There has been general acceptance of several proposed changes, including the release of a Technical Issues Paper for all IRAs. On this basis we have prepared such a paper for this IRA.

The attached Technical Issues Paper is intended to promote discussion and comment on the main pest and disease risk issues. The paper identifies 44 pest and disease agents, of these 30 are to be considered further in the IRA. It does not discuss risk management issues, as this will be addressed in a later consultation step, the draft IRA paper. Animal Biosecurity will take into account stakeholder comments on the Technical Issues Paper as it develops the draft IRA report.

#### **Next Steps**

I would appreciate receiving your comments, supported by scientific references if available, by 8 July 2002. Animal Biosecurity will consider all technical comments received and these will be taken into account in preparing the draft IRA report.

I would be grateful if you would pass details of this advice to other interested parties, who should advise Biosecurity Australia if they wish to be included in future communications on this matter.

Edmund Barton Building  
Barton ACT  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
ph +61 2 6272 4465  
fax +61 2 6272 3399  
[www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au)

ABN 24 113 085 695

## **Confidentiality**

Respondents are advised that, subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 1988, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available. Comments may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the 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.

DAVID BANKS  
General Manager  
Animal Biosecurity

Contact officer:	Stephen Colquitt
Telephone no:	(02) 6272 5292
Facsimile no:	(02) 6272 3399
E-mail	<u><a href="mailto:Stephen.Colquitt@affa.gov.au">Stephen.Colquitt@affa.gov.au</a></u>