



Department of
AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY -
AUSTRALIA



26 November 2002

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/48

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: AFRICAN CROWNED CRANES RELEASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES PAPER

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with the Technical Issues Paper (Attachment A) for the generic Import Risk Analysis (IRA) of African crowned cranes, for consideration and comment. Comments would be appreciated by 31 January 2002.

The Technical Issues Paper is being released for public consultation as part of the IRA of African crowned cranes. The importation of live birds, except pigeons, is prohibited. In addition to this IRA, Biosecurity Australia is also conducting IRAs of psittacine birds and flamingos.

The IRA commenced in October 1999, in response to requests from members of the Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (ARAZPA). It will consider the importation of live birds and hatching eggs from all sources (ie a generic IRA). In this IRA, African crowned cranes are defined as those cranes of *Balearica* sp, including:

- the Black crowned crane: *Balearica pavonina*
- the Grey crowned crane: *Balearica regulorum*

Previous Animal Quarantine Policy Memoranda 1999/56, 1999/67 and 2000/09 consulted, and provided advice to, stakeholders on the approach to this IRA. Progress has been subject to resource limits and higher priorities accorded to other avian IRAs.

Biosecurity Australia is currently reviewing the IRA process and expects to finalise the review by early 2003. 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 19 disease agents as potential hazards 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. Biosecurity Australia 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 31 January 2003. Biosecurity Australia will consider all technical comments received.

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Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer (details below).

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
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Animal Biosecurity

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