



29 January 2002

## **PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/03**

### **IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS – FRESH UNSHU MANDARINS FROM JAPAN**

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) advises stakeholders of the commencement of an Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on the importation of fresh unshu mandarins from Japan.

In our PBPM 2001/05 of 16 March 2001 we advised you that the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry – Australia (AFFA) had received an import request for unshu mandarins from Japan. The purpose of this PBPM is to notify you that an IRA process has been initiated for this request as a matter of priority.

The IRA process is currently under review (the last consultation on the draft 'Administrative Framework for Import Risk Analysis' closed on 15 November 2001). Considering the advanced stage of the review and the proposed changes to the process, we propose this IRA follow the revised process, the final documentation for which is expected to be finalised early in 2002.

#### **Scope**

The IRA will consider quarantine risks associated with pests and diseases of unshu mandarins from Japan.

#### **Indicative Timetable**

We estimate that the IRA process will take approximately 2 years. If there are no unanticipated delays, we would expect to release the technical issues paper in mid 2002.

#### **IRA Team**

Biosecurity Australia (BA) considers the following technical expertise is required to conduct the risk analysis on the importation of unshu mandarins from Japan:

- plant pathologist
- entomologist
- risk analyst

The required technical expertise is available within Biosecurity Australia and we propose that an in-house team of scientists conduct the risk analysis. It is important to note that the consultation process will ensure that other scientific and technical expertise in Australia and overseas will have several opportunities to contribute to the IRA.

## Your comments are invited

You are invited to comment on the proposed scope of the IRA, the indicative timetable and the proposal to use an in-house team of scientists. Biosecurity Australia will take your comments into consideration in making its recommendations to the Executive Manager. We will accept written submissions until the close of business on Thursday 28 February 2002. Responses should be forwarded to:

Technical and Administrative Services  
 Plant Biosecurity  
 Biosecurity Australia  
 Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry - Australia  
 GPO Box 858  
 CANBERRA ACT 2601  
 Tel: (02) 6272 5094  
 Fax: (02) 6272 3307  
 Email: [plantbiosec@affa.gov.au](mailto:plantbiosec@affa.gov.au)

## Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Plant Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and 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.

## Consultation

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list for this IRA, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to Technical and Administrative Services at the above address.

Information on all IRAs being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the web at <http://www.affa.gov.au/plantbiosecurity>.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Brian Stynes  
 General Manager  
 Plant Biosecurity