



23 April 2002

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/13

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS –APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) advises stakeholders of the outcome of the third meeting of the risk analysis panel (RAP) for the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on the importation of fresh apples from New Zealand.

In our PBPM 2002/09 of 20 March 2002, we advised you of the outcome of the second meeting of the risk analysis panel (RAP) for the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on the importation of apples from New Zealand. That PBPM indicated that the third meeting of the RAP was scheduled for 16&17 April 2002. The purpose of this PBPM is to inform you of the outcomes of the third meeting.

At their first meeting, RAP members agreed on the importance of keeping stakeholders informed and asked that Biosecurity Australia circulate a summary of each of its meetings to stakeholders. Accordingly, the RAP's summary of its third meeting is at attachment 1 for your information.

The key issues discussed were:

1. Details of the scientific review paper and the work program required for its finalisation. Logistical issues have resulted in a change to the planned release date.
2. Arrangements for the stakeholder workshops, which are planned to follow release of the review paper.
3. Development of risk scenarios.

The next RAP meeting will be held on 21&22 May 2002. The scientific review paper is to be released soon after that meeting.

Confidentiality

Stakeholders 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 following address.

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

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

Brian Stynes
General Manager
Plant Biosecurity

Meeting summary

The risk analysis panel (RAP) for the New Zealand apple import risk analysis (IRA) held its third meeting on 16 & 17 April 2002. A detailed report from the last RAP meeting was approved and will be placed on the public file.

Members discussed details of the scientific review paper and the work program required for its finalisation. Substantial progress has been made in considering the large number of comments received on the draft IRA and in developing a responses for inclusion in the review paper. The RAP agreed that the review paper would contain a preamble describing the process the RAP has used in considering the inventory of issues and a commentary about key points in the inventory. Detailed responses to the less important issues and those the RAP considers outside the scope of its task, will also be included. The document will also contain information about process issues (such as workshops) and relating to developments in international and domestic policy environments. It will also list the relevant technical data that has become available since the draft IRA was published.

The RAP discussed arrangements for the stakeholder workshops which are planned to follow release of the review paper. A key part of the initial workshops will be to focus on the methodology and the risk pathways for introduction of pests potentially associated with New Zealand apples. The RAP developed risk scenarios that will be used at the workshops and in its pest risk analysis, and procedures for quantification of risk were explored. The RAP foreshadowed other workshops following the release of the draft IRA.

The next RAP meeting is scheduled for 21 & 22 May 2002. The scientific review paper will be released shortly after this meeting.

NZ Apple RAP
22 April 2002