



14 June 2002

## PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/25

### IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS –APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum advises stakeholders of the outcome of the fourth meeting of the risk analysis panel for the Import Risk Analysis on the importation of fresh apples from New Zealand.

In our PBPM 2002/13 of 23 April 2002, we advised you of the outcome of the third 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 fourth meeting of the RAP was scheduled for 21&22 May 2002. The purpose of this PBPM is to inform you of the outcomes of the fourth 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 fourth meeting is at attachment 1 for your information.

The key issues discussed were the Scientific Review Paper (SRP) and the workshop planned to follow its release.

The next RAP meeting will be held on 17&18 June 2002. The SRP is to be released soon after that meeting. The stakeholder workshop, which will be held in Melbourne, is scheduled for 22&23 July 2002.

#### 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  
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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 fourth meeting on 21 & 22 May 2002. A detailed report from the third RAP meeting 16 & 17 April 2002 was approved and will be placed on the public file.

The major issues dealt with by this RAP meeting were the Scientific Review Paper (SRP) and the workshop planned to be held subsequent to the release of the SRP.

Members reviewed the responses to the final inventory of issues circulated to stakeholders as well as a commentary on the key issues in the inventory. The responses and the commentary will form major sections of the SRP. In addition, the SRP would contain sections on new technical information obtained since October 2000, developments in domestic policy environment since October 2000, international developments since October 2000 and an outline of the process that will be followed after the release of the SRP. The RAP aims to finalise the SRP at its next meeting, for release soon after.

The SRP is intended to assist stakeholders focus on the key issues and provide a starting point for the consultation process. It is not intended to provide a definitive RAP view on the key issues.

The RAP agreed on the content of a stakeholder workshop scheduled for 22 and 23 July 2002 in Melbourne. The RAP expects about 40 participants to attend representing the apple and pear industry, nursery industry, fruit processors, state departments of agriculture, members of the RAP and technical working groups (TWGs), New Zealand Government and AFFA. The workshop will focus on pathway scenarios for fire blight with the emphasis on hazard identification. An opportunity will also be provided for participants to make comments about other aspects of the IRA. The purpose of this workshop is to assist the RAP identify hazards for further analysis and provide the RAP with an opportunity to hear stakeholder views on significant issues.

The next RAP meeting is scheduled for 17 & 18 June 2002.