



26 June 2002

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/28

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS –APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND

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

In our PBPM 2002/25 of 14 June 2002, we advised you of the outcome of the fourth 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 fifth meeting of the RAP was scheduled for 17&18 June 2002. The purpose of this PBPM is to inform you of the outcomes of the fifth 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 fifth meeting is at attachment 1 for your information.

The meeting commenced detailed consideration of the early steps in the fruit importation scenario (ie the pest being present in the source orchard and on apple fruit) in relation to *Erwinia amylovora*. Other 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 24 July 2002, the day following the stakeholder workshop, which will be held in Melbourne on 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 1988*.

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 1982*.

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
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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 fifth meeting on 17 and 18 June 2002. A detailed report from the last RAP meeting was approved and will be placed on the public file.

Members finalised the details of the scientific review paper. As with all IRA related documents, this paper is required to go through BA's approval and publishing processes. Accordingly, the paper will be circulated in the near future.

The RAP discussed a range of issues relating to the pathway scenarios that it will use in its analysis. These scenarios will be circulated to stakeholders prior to the workshop, which will be held on 22 and 23 July 2002. The meeting commenced detailed consideration of the early steps in the fruit importation scenario (ie the pest being present in the source orchard and on apple fruit) in relation to *Erwinia amylovora*.

The RAP also discussed arrangements for the stakeholder workshop, which will be held at a venue near Melbourne's Tullamarine Airport. The RAP is consulting with the Australian Apple and Pear Growers Association Inc regarding Australian industry stakeholder participation. The objectives of the workshop are:

- To allow participants to provide input on important issues that need to be considered by the Risk Analysis Panel.
- To identify issues that need to be considered in analysing the risk pathways for entry and establishment of fire blight via trade in apples.
- To provide an opportunity for participants to meet the Risk Analysis Panel and understand the process that is being used to analyse the quarantine risks of apple importation.

A summary of the workshop will be provided to all stakeholders.

The next RAP meeting is scheduled for 24 July 2002.

NZ Apple RAP
June 2002