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Department of
**AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
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ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/05

IMPORTATION OF STOCKFEED AND STOCKFEED INGREDIENTS - FINALISED RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR TRANSMISSIBLE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHIES (TSEs)

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) advises stakeholders of finalised measures for a range of stockfeeds and stockfeed ingredients to manage the risk of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) entering Australia in such products (Attachment A). These measures come into effect from today.

Conditions for importation of processed stockfeed of plant origin were finalised in August 1999. Since that time, there has been a move towards a national program for testing of local and imported stockfeeds in order to ensure compliance with Australia's ban on the feeding of animal protein to ruminants and to reduce the risk of TSEs (in particular Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathies (BSE)) through contamination of such products with material derived from ruminants.

On 5 September 2002, Biosecurity Australia released for public comment a draft paper on risk management measures for TSE risks for stockfeed and stockfeed ingredients (ABPM 2002/43). Comments received on that draft paper have been taken into account in finalising the paper. A summary of the significant technical comments received is at Attachment B.

The final paper, which is attached, discusses options for risk management measures, which can be summarised as:

- refusal to import
- requirement for analytical testing for ruminant derived material
- inspection and audit of the manufacturing and/or export premises
- inspection on arrival and release if documentation and product are satisfactory.

The particular risk management measures applied depend on the risks of the product in question which is reflected principally by its identity, origin and the nature of the production process. Different types of products are classified on the above criteria and appropriate risk management measures recommended for each class. In the event of new products being proposed for import, Biosecurity Australia will determine which class they belong to, on the basis of a detailed description of the product and its manufacture.

The measures described in the paper will be in addition to any import requirements already applied. These measures will be applied for all future shipments.

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 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.

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