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ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/09 ANIMAL BIOSECURITY: UPDATE ON IMPORT RISK ANALYSES AND MARKET ACCESS LIST

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with a status report on the animal and aquatic animal Import Risk Analysis (IRA) work program and provides an updated list of access requests.

Attached to this ABPM is a consolidated list of Biosecurity Australia's animal IRA work program (Attachment A). Currently there are 26 animal and aquatic animal IRAs underway and a major aquatic policy review.

For more information, or if you wish to be placed on a mailing list for a particular IRA, please contact the officer whose details appear below. In addition to the attached information I also recommend that you regularly check our homepage for information on animal and aquatic animal biosecurity issues: http://www.affa.gov.au/animalbiosecurity.

Biosecurity Australia also publishes *Biosecurity Australia News* bimonthly, which provides updates on major events. If you currently do not receive the newsletter and would like to, please contact us.

Each year, Biosecurity Australia receives many proposals to import agricultural commodities. A list of these requests is maintained and, as resources become available, the highest priority requests are commenced. In deciding priority, Biosecurity Australia takes into account factors such as the availability of data, the order of receipt of proposals, the breadth and nature of interest in the establishment of new or revised conditions, the need to consider access by a particular date, as well as stakeholder comment. A consolidated list is at Attachment B, and we offer the opportunity for you to provide information or comment on the priority that you consider should be accorded by Biosecurity Australia to any of these proposals.

Next steps

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on a particular issue 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 ABPMs 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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