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Department of
**AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY -
AUSTRALIA**



File No.

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ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/10

DEER (CERVIDAE) AND THEIR GENETIC MATERIAL IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS

RELEASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES PAPER

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with the Technical Issues Paper of Import Risk Analysis (IRA) of deer and their genetic material, for consideration and comment. Comments are due by 2 June 2003.

Biosecurity Australia is conducting an Import Risk Analysis (IRA) of deer and their genetic material. Requests to import domestic and wild deer and other members of the cervidae family have been received since 1992. The IRA commenced in March 2002. Previous ABPMs (ie. ABPM2002/10 and ABPM2002/20) consulted, and provided advice to, stakeholders on the commencement and approach to the IRA.

Currently there is no policy for the importation of live deer; however, genetic material may be imported from the Member States of the European Union, Poland and New Zealand.

As a result of the current review of the IRA process that Biosecurity Australia expects to finalise shortly, there has been general acceptance of several proposed changes, including the release of a Technical Issues Paper for all IRAs (a draft framework document of the IRA process was circulated in September 2001 (ABPM 2001/26)). On this basis, we have prepared such a paper for this IRA (Attachment A).

The attached paper is intended to promote discussion and comment on the main pest and disease risk issues. It identifies 41 disease agents (microorganisms and parasites). The Technical Issues Paper does not discuss risk management issues, as this will be addressed in a later consultation step, the draft IRA report. This will include risk assessments and, for those diseases that present an unacceptable risk, propose risk management measures.

Next Steps

I would appreciate receiving your comments, supported by scientific references, if available, by 2 June 2003. Biosecurity Australia will consider all technical comments received and these will be taken into account in preparing the draft IRA report.

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. Comments 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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