



Department of
AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY -
AUSTRALIA



7 January 2003

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/01

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS - BULK MAIZE (*Zea mays* L.) FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) advises stakeholders that policy to allow imports of bulk maize from the USA incorporating conditions outlined in the final Import Risk Analysis (IRA) report has now been adopted.

Biosecurity Australia released a final IRA Report on imports of bulk maize from the USA on 4 October 2002.

Stakeholders were given the opportunity to appeal to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia. No appeals were received.

The policy to allow imports of bulk maize from the USA incorporating conditions outlined in the final IRA report has now been adopted. The conditions include heat sterilisation, prior to exports, to ensure that all seed present (i.e. maize, other crop seed admixtures and weed seeds) are rendered non-viable and all plant pathogens and arthropod pests present in grain are killed. Such treatment denatures protein and as a result would mitigate against any potential quarantine issues associated with genetically modified material.

Application of the policy will now proceed and the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) will revise the existing import conditions for bulk maize on the AQIS website (www.aqis.gov.au/icon). The final IRA report is available from the AFFA website at www.affa.gov.au/plantbiosecurity or copies can be requested from the contact point below.

Biosecurity Australia would like to thank all stakeholders for their involvement in finalising this IRA process. If you have any further queries please contact Technical and Administrative Services.

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