

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/04

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS - SWEETCORN SEED FROM IDAHO, USA

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) advises stakeholders that policy to allow imports of sweetcorn seed for sowing from Idaho, 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 sweetcorn seed for sowing from Idaho, USA on 3 April 2002.

Stakeholders were given the opportunity to appeal to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia. Five appeals were received and were subsequently dismissed by an Import Risk Analysis Appeals Panel.

The policy to allow imports of sweetcorn seed for sowing from Idaho, USA incorporating conditions outlined in the final IRA report has now been adopted. The conditions include registration of export fields; field sanitation and pest control measures; export crop inspection and testing; packing house registration; pre-export seed inspection; pre-export seed treatment for *Ustilago zeae*; and on-arrival inspection and, if required, treatment of seed. Such measures address the risk of introduction of High plains virus, maize chlorotic mosaic virus and wheat streak mosaic virus.

Application of the policy will now proceed and the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) will revise the existing import conditions for sweetcorn seed 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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