



26 March 2003

## PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2003/09

### TOMATOES FROM THE NETHERLANDS

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) provides stakeholders with information regarding the cessation of the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for tomatoes from the Netherlands.

The IRA for tomatoes from the Netherlands was initiated in 1998. The IRA was to be conducted under the routine process, as described in *The AQIS Import Risk Analysis Process Handbook*, 1998. In our letter to stakeholders of 29 July 1999 we advised that the draft IRA would be delayed due to a change in the commodity pathway from individual fruits, to include both individual fruits and fruits in truss.

When this IRA was initiated there was no existing policy for the importation of truss tomatoes into Australia. Biosecurity Australia has recently conducted a review of access for tomatoes from New Zealand and extended access to include truss tomatoes in addition to individual tomatoes (PBPM 2002-50).

Biosecurity Australia now considers that the potential quarantine pests associated with tomatoes from the Netherlands do not pose significantly different quarantine risks or require significantly different management measures than those for which policy already exists. In view of this, there is no need to proceed with an IRA, i.e. the access request can be assessed as an extension of existing policy.

*A Draft review of quarantine requirements for the import of tomatoes from the Netherlands* will be developed and distributed to stakeholders for comment. The purpose of the review will be to provide information on:

- background to the access request
- pests and diseases of quarantine concern
- existing import conditions for tomatoes
- proposed import conditions for tomatoes from the Netherlands.

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to Technical and Administrative Services at the address below.

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Information on all policy reviews and IRAs being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the web at <http://www.affa.gov.au/plantbiosecurity>.

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