



27 February 2004

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2004/04

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY: UPDATE ON EXPORT MARKET ACCESS WORK PROGRAM FOR LIVE ANIMALS

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides a status report on Animal Biosecurity's export market access work program.

Animal Biosecurity negotiates with trading partners and participates in international fora to maintain, gain or improve access to export markets for animals and their genetic material. This is achieved by means of a range of long-term strategies and, in the shorter term, by negotiating on a case-by-case basis in response to issues as they arise.

Animal Biosecurity has recently visited or met with the following countries for bilateral technical discussions: Chile, Indonesia, Mexico and Thailand.

Some recent achievements in gaining new or improved market access for Australian animals and genetic material include:

- . Mexico: Agreement to conditions that allow imports of cattle from bluetongue virus free zones without testing
- . Chile: Agreement to improved conditions for bovine embryos and acceptance of AQIS as the competent authority for the export of salmonids
- . South Korea: Signing of a protocol for the export of camels
- . Egypt: Acceptance of improved anthrax requirements for breeding sheep
- . Japan: Conclusion of negotiations on the conditions for queen bees
- . Kuwait: Acceptance of improved anthrax requirements for breeding cattle
- . New Caledonia: Acceptance of improved conditions for bovine embryos
- . Peru: Agreement to conditions for ovine and caprine embryos
- . Uruguay: Acceptance of improved conditions for bovine and ovine embryos and semen
- . Vietnam: Signing of a protocol for the export of breeding sheep and goats and agreement to remove testing requirements for pig diseases exotic to Australia.

To assist in considering priorities for market access work, Animal Biosecurity regularly meets with livestock exporters and State and Territory governments. This includes participation in the quarterly meetings of the Australian Livestock Exporters Council's Protocol Committee.

Attached is a consolidated list of Animal Biosecurity's export market access work program (Attachment A). It is our intention to regularly circulate to stakeholders an update of our recent activities in the area of export market access.

Further information is available from the contact officer whose details appear below. We would welcome comments on this ABPM.

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer.

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