



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

21 April 2006

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2006/12

REVIEW OF IMPORT POLICY FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) advises stakeholders of commencement of a review of the import policy for dairy products for human consumption from all countries. Biosecurity Australia is also inviting expressions of interest from individuals or organisations with relevant expertise to assist with the review.

Australia currently allows imports of dairy products for human consumption from a number of countries subject to risk management to address particular diseases, commodity processes and country issues. These conditions were established in May 1999 following completion of a generic import risk analysis (IRA) (Animal Quarantine Policy Memoranda 1999/76 and 86).

In light of the trend towards global processing and marketing of dairy-based products, including growing commercial interest in importing dairy products manufactured in FMD-infected countries using dairy ingredients sourced from FMD-free countries, together with advances in processing and further scientific information since the IRA was completed, Biosecurity Australia considers that a review of the existing policy is required.

The policy review will consider dairy products intended for human consumption derived from bovine (cattle), ovine (sheep), caprine (goats) or buffalo milk or milk products from all countries.

To assist with the policy review, Biosecurity Australia is inviting expressions of interest from those with relevant expertise to report on current and future trends in the processing of dairy products with reference to critical processing steps during which pathogen inactivation occurs. This will help Biosecurity Australia identify issues relevant to an assessment of whether the quarantine risk presented by imported dairy products has changed since completion of the IRA. The terms of reference for the expression of interest are on the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website (www.daff.gov.au/tenders).

Consultation

Biosecurity Australia will develop a draft policy review document that will be circulated for stakeholder comment. Stakeholders are invited to submit any relevant technical or other information they believe may be appropriate to this review to Biosecurity Australia.

For further information on the policy review please contact the officer below. Details of the expression of interest are on Biosecurity Australia's website.

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should contact the officer listed below. Alternatively, if

you wish to be removed from the distribution list or amend your contact details, please advise the contact officer.

Information on import risk analyses and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available from our website www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au

Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to policy memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the memorandum.

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 1988*.

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 1982*.

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