



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

27 March 2007

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2007/07

**BIOSECURITY POLICY DETERMINATION -
IMPORTATION OF APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND**

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) informs stakeholders that Australia's Director of Quarantine has determined a policy for the importation of apples from New Zealand. Importation of apples can be permitted subject to the *Quarantine Act 1908*, and the application of phytosanitary measures as specified in the *Final import risk analysis report for apples from New Zealand*, November 2006. The policy will now be taken into account by decision makers when considering import applications for apples from New Zealand in accordance with the *Quarantine Act 1908* and *Quarantine Proclamation 1998* as amended.

In response to applications from the New Zealand Government, Biosecurity Australia has completed an import risk analysis (IRA) in accordance with the provisions of the *Import Risk Analysis Handbook*. This IRA was subject to extensive consultation with stakeholders and public submissions, review by an Eminent Scientist Group and an appeal process. At the completion of the process, Biosecurity Australia recommended that Australia's Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine make a policy determination that apples from New Zealand should be permitted entry into Australia under specific quarantine conditions.

The Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine has now determined the policy to permit the entry of apples from New Zealand to Australia. Importation of apples can be permitted subject to the *Quarantine Act 1908*, and the application of phytosanitary measures as specified in the *Final import risk analysis report for apples from New Zealand*, November 2006. These measures are designed to limit quarantine risk to a level which is acceptably low, consistent with Australia's conservative approach to quarantine.

A detailed operational work plan between Australia and New Zealand will now be developed. This will need to be approved by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service before any import permits for apples from New Zealand into Australia will be considered. In accordance with the IRA Handbook, Biosecurity Australia will liaise with AQIS on implementation.

The final report is available from the Biosecurity Australia website www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au.

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