



**Australian Government**  
**Biosecurity Australia**

25 June 2007

**BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2007/14**

**REINSTATEMENT OF MARKET ACCESS FOR NEW ZEALAND LETTUCE**

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum informs stakeholders that the prohibition on New Zealand lettuce will be lifted following the spread of currant-lettuce aphid to all States. The revised policy will come into effect 14 days after the date of this notification.

New Zealand lettuce imports were prohibited in July 2002, following the establishment and spread of currant-lettuce aphid in New Zealand. In 2004, currant-lettuce aphid was detected in Tasmania and has now been reported in all States except the Northern Territory.

Biosecurity New Zealand requested renewed access for head and loose leaf lettuce following the establishment and spread of currant-lettuce aphid in Australia.

There are no inter-state restrictions on the movement of loose leaf and head lettuce between the infested States and there is no control on the movement of lettuce from infested States to the Northern Territory, as currant-lettuce aphid has never been a regulated pest for the Northern Territory.

All States and the Northern Territory agree that measures against currant-lettuce aphid on New Zealand lettuce are no longer technically justified.

In light of this information, import conditions have been revised to allow imports of fresh loose leaf and head lettuce from New Zealand to recommence. The conditions for importation will be the same as those currently in place for the importation of fresh fruit and vegetables. The import conditions will be;

- All imports require an import permit to be issued by AQIS prior to importation.
- A phytosanitary certificate issued by New Zealand must be sighted by AQIS prior to the commencement of product inspection.
- All consignments must be free of live insects, disease symptoms, contaminant seeds, soil and other debris prior to arrival in Australia.
- All consignments are subject to inspection by AQIS.

- Each consignment must be secured (i.e. made insect proof) prior to shipment to maintain its quarantine integrity on arrival using an AQIS approved packing option.

The conditions will come into effect 14 days after the date of this Biosecurity Australia notice.

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