29 March 2012

BIOSECURITY ADVICE 2012/06

COMMENCEMENT OF A NON-REGULATED ANALYSIS OF EXISTING POLICY FOR CALIFORNIAN TABLE GRAPES TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA

This Biosecurity Advice announces the formal commencement of a non-regulated analysis of existing policy to consider a proposal to extend market access for fresh table grapes from California into Western Australia.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) Biosecurity will prepare a draft report in due course, which will be released for stakeholder comment.

The commencement of this analysis is in response to a request from the United States to extend market access for Californian table grapes into Western Australia (WA).

Fresh table grapes from California have been imported into eastern Australian states since 2002. As there is existing import policy for table grapes from California, it has been determined that the request should be progressed as a non-regulated analysis of existing policy.

The analysis will consider pests of regional concern to WA and will take into account risk assessments and reviews completed for Californian table grapes into eastern Australian states since January 2000. The analysis will also take into account recent literature and data from the quarantine inspections of Californian table grapes since imports first occurred.

The next step is to prepare and release a draft report to enable all interested stakeholders to submit written comment on the analysis. A Biosecurity Advice will be issued to announce that the draft report has been placed on the DAFF website, and to invite comments.

Following the completion of the comment period, DAFF Biosecurity will consider all comments and publish a final report.

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