

GOVERNMENT OF



Draft Report for the Non-Regulated Analysis of Existing Policy for Fresh Lychee Fruit from Taiwan and Vietnam



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GENERAL COMMENTS

APPENDIX A

1. ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES

Implications associated with referring to the *Plant Diseases Regulations 1989* prohbited diseases list.

REASONING

In some cases a determination of no significant economic consequences is proposed and supported by the statement '*This is supported by the fact that this species is not listed as a prohibited disease in the WA Plant Diseases Regulations 1989 (WAL* 2011)'.

The inclusion of this statement may result in readers concluding that the only diseases having economic consequences and of concern to Western Australia are listed in the *Plant Diseases Regulations 1989*. The *Plant Diseases Regulations 1989* do not provide a complete list of diseases (or pests) considered to be quarantine pests or of concern for Western Australia. The inclusion of this statement may result in misunderstandings in the future.

RECOMMENDATIONS

• The comment referred to above be removed from the potential for economic consequences in Appendix A.

2. PATHWAY ASSOCIATION WITH LEAVES

Uncertainty regarding the presence or absence of leaves as part of the pathway under consideration.

REASONING

Section 1.2.2 appears to suggest that the pathway is fruit which is defined as '*fruit with the stalk but not other plant parts*'.

However, in Section 3.9 the description of harvest in Vietnam includes leaves, "*In* Vietnam for current markets, fresh lychee fruit are not harvested individually to avoid skin rupturing at the stem and causing rapid rotting of the fruit (PPD 2012a). Lychee fruit are harvested in bunches by hand with a portion of the branch and a few leaves still attached (Fig. 3.19)." (page 41).

Removal of the leaves before packing is not mentioned in either the following postharvest section or in the risk mitigation measures.

A number of pests are listed as being associated with leaves but are not considered to be on the pathway.

The association of leaves with fruit being imported Vietnam should be clarified and potential association of pests and pathogens with leaves reassessed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Clarify the association of leaves with lychee fruit harvested in Vietnam.
- State clearly in the risk mitigation measures that fruit must be devoid of leaves, or
- Reassess the pathway association of pathogens present in Vietnam that can be associated with leaves.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to review and provide comments on the changes prior to the release of the provisional final policy review.

PATHOLOGY COMMENTS

APPENDIX A

3. PATHOGENS NOT CONSIDERED IN THE PEST CATEGORISATION PROCESS

An additional pathogen was identified during searches of literature and culture collection records associated with lychees in Taiwan.

REASONING

The following pathogen was identified:

• *Hysterium angustatum* (Herb I.M.I. 2012)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Include this pathogen in the pest categorisation process
- This pathogen has been recorded from Western Australia and is not considered to be a quarantine pest for the state.

4. PRESENCE OF PATHOGENS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA LISTED AS ABSENT

A number of pathogens are erroneously listed as "Not in WA" and are not considered to be quarantine pests for Western Australia.

REASONING

This error may have arisen as these pathogens are not included in the "*Draft plant pathology lists of pathogen species*" (DAFWA, 2006) used as a reference by DAFF and as an oversight by DAFWA in our response to the draft pest categorisation list previously circulated. To clarify the following pests are considered to be 'Present in WA' and are not considered to be quarantine pests for the state.

- Cochliobolus hawaiiensis (APPDb 2012)
- Corynespora cassiicola (APPDb 2012)
- Penicillium aurantiogriseum (Herb I.M.I. 2012)
- Penicillium brevicompactum (APPDb 2012; Herb I.M.I. 2012)
- Penicillium solitym var. crustosum (Herb I.M.I. 2012)
- Acremonium zonatum (Herb I.M.I. 2012)
- Cylindrocarpon lichenicola (Herb I.M.I. 2012)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Change the status of these pathogens in the pest categorisation process.
- Update the pest categorisation table to reflect these changes.

5. ASPERGILLUS BRASILIENSIS

Clarification of the organism name as a synonym with Aspergillus niger is required.

REASONING

According to Varga et al. (2007) only some isolates of *A. niger* have been reidentified as *A. brasiliensis*.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Clarify the organism name as a synonym with *Aspergillus niger* and the identity of Australian isolates if possible.
- Update the pest categorisation table to reflect any changes to synonyms and organism records.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to review and provide comments on the changes prior to the release of the provisional final policy review.

6. COLLETOTRICHUM ACUTATUM

Clarification of the strain or species of the record of *C. acuatum* is required.

REASONING

The reference, Coates et al. (1994), provided for the record of *C. acutatum* on lychee refers to pathogenicity trials conducted in Australia. These pathogenicity trials used an isolate of *C. acutatum* from avocado in Queensland. Isolates of *C. acutatum* have been reassessed and those from avocado in Queensland have been identified as either *C. fioriniae* or *C. simmondsii*. Isolates of *C. acutatum* from lychee in the study were identified as *C. simmondsii* (Shivas & Yu 2009). Note both of these *Colletotrichum* species have been recorded in Western Australia (Shivas & Yu 2009).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Revise the identity of the record of *C. acutatum* being referred to in Appendix A.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to review and provide comments on the changes prior to the release of the provisional final policy review.

7. CALONECTRIA MORGANII

It is noted that a record of *Cylindrocladium scoparium*, synonym of *Calonectria morganii*, for Western Australia is listed in Shivas (1989). However, it should be noted that the taxonomy of *Calonectria* species and their *Cylindrocladium* anamorphs has undergone recent revision, resulting in doubt on the validity of this record.

REASONING

Recent publications using molecular sequence analysis of *Calonectria* species suggests that *Calonectria morganii* is restricted to the Northern Hemisphere and Brazil (Lombard et al. 2010a; Lombard et al. 2010b). Isolates from Australia considered in these studies have been classified as *Cylindrocladium pauciramosum* (Lombard et al. 2010a; Lombard et al. 2010b; Lombard et al. 2011; Schoch et al. 2001). *Calonectria pauciramosa*, teleomorph of *Cylindrocladium pauciramosum*, is considered to be the dominant species in Australia (Lombard et al. 2010a; Lombard et al. 2011). *Cylindrocladium pauciramosum* has been recorded from Western Australia (APPDb 2013).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Revise the listed status of *Calonectria morganii* in Australia and Western Australia.
- Consider Calonectria morganii further in the pest categorisation process.

• Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to review and provide comments on the changes prior to the release of the provisional final policy review.

8. WITCHES' BROOM

Witches' broom is present in Taiwan and potentially on the fruit pathway.

REASONING

According to the information presented in the Import Risk Assessment for the Importation of Longan and Lychee Fruit from the People's Republic of China and Thailand (2004) witches' broom is present in Taiwan. Witches' broom was also assessed as being on the pathway in the previous import risk assessment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Revise the presence of Witches' broom in Taiwan
- Revise the pathway association of Witches' broom with the importation of lychee fruit.
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to review and provide comments on the changes prior to the release of the provisional final policy review.

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