

Biosecurity Australia (2005) – Revised Draft Import Risk Analysis Report For Apples From New Zealand.

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To Technical & Administrative Services
Plant Security
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I would like clarification on the following points:

TRASH – Procedure for checking fruit, especially bulk fruit.

FIREBLIGHT – Part B Page 103. Handling of bulk fruit from New Zealand posed a significant risk. Fruit to be imported only in packed boxes regarded as overly trade restrictive.
Question – Risk assessment to be based solely on science. This doesn't seem to be the case. Please explain?

CLIMATE CHANGE – Some of your studies are dated prior to 1980/81 when temperatures have apparently started to spike upwards. Have the changing weather patterns in the growing regions of New Zealand and Australia been considered in the risk assessment?

EUROPEAN CANKER – Inspection cannot detect symptomless infection and infestation. There is also the threat of New Pathogen inoculum being introduced into disease free districts and remaining latent for up to 3 or 4 years. How do you inspect for those situations?

APPLE LEAF CURLING MIDGE – How do you sample 3000 fruit in a bulk fruit shipment, example – bottom of a bulk bin?

MODE OF TRADE – New Zealand hasn't told Biosecurity Australia much about the proposed mode of trade. This could have implications for inspections. This should be clarified before any recommendations are made.

Peter West
On behalf of the Westcastle Partnership