



# Implementation of new horticulture instructional material – what it means for Authorised Officers

This factsheet explains how upcoming changes to the instructional material for horticulture export inspections will affect inspection Authorised Officers (AOs) including the department's Inspection Services Group.

## What instructional material is being updated?

The following is a list of the new instructional material:

- Guideline: Inspection of horticulture for export
- Work instruction: Inspecting horticulture for export using end-point sampling
- Work instruction: Inspecting horticulture for export using in-line sampling
- Reference: PE101 Export Compliance Record
- Reference: Plant exports guide - Horticulture inspection techniques
- Reference: Plant exports guide - Equipment
- Reference: Plant exports guide - Specimen collection
- Reference: Plant exports guide - Sampling horticulture

## When is the instructional material being published?

The instructional material will be published in the Plant Export Operations Manual (PEOM) in next fortnight and advised via an Industry Advice Notice (IAN). The exact publication date will be in the IAN.

The IAN will identify 34 documents in the PEOM that will be rescinded and replaced by these 8 new documents.

## When will the instructional material come into effect for current AOs?

The instructional material will come into effect one month after it is published. From this date AOs:

- must comply with the new instructional material
- will be audited against the new instructional material for inspections conducted from the date of effect.

## When will the instructional material come into effect for AO candidates?

The new material will be used for AO candidate training two weeks after it is published and for AO assessments one month after it is published.

## What are the key changes?

### Documentation

- External AOs are not required to verify the registration status of export establishments or protocol entities such as growers, packhouses or export delegates.
- The new version of the Export Compliance Record PE101 must be used (unless using PEMS).
- A new RFP is required where a failed consignment is re-presented for inspection and the composition has changed from the original RFP. The client must provide the original RFP and inspection record.

### Trade description

- Trade description is mandatory.
- Trade description requirements have changed.

### Sampling

- Clarity has been given to the definition of a unit for the purpose of sampling.
- Sampling rates for all horticulture have been standardised to 600 units or two percent of packages, unless otherwise specified by the importing country.
- Sampling rates for bulbs, corms and tubers have been expanded to include two percent of packages.
- The sampling rate table for nursery stock and dried fruit has been removed.
- Risk groups for sampling mixed consignments have changed.
- AOs must select the sample using an approved sampling technique.

### **Flowpath inspection**

- AOs must conduct a product flowpath inspection.
- PE101 Export Compliance Record has been updated to include a field for the flowpath inspection.

### **Inspection bench**

- Inspection bench requirements have changed.

### **Inspection**

- Clients can present Request for Permit (RFP) lines for individual inspection.
- The requirement to inspect every genera of nursery stock has been removed.
- A tolerance of 25g of soil per consignment sample has been added.

### **Pest identification**

- The pest identification policy has changed.

### **Failure and re-conditioning**

- Clarity has been provided around failure of consignments, reconditioning and re-inspection.

### **AO job functions**

- HOR3003 Export inspection of nursery stock, flowers and foliage has been merged into HOR3002 Export inspection of fruit and vegetables and retitled HOR3002 Export inspection of horticulture products.

### **Where will I find the new instructional material?**

The instructional material will be published in the PEOM on the department's website and Instructional Material Library for departmental AOs.



### **How do the changes affect my responsibilities as an AO?**

AOs must comply with the policy in the *Guideline: Inspection of horticulture for export* and related instructional material when they come into effect. In summary, AOs must:

- ensure the inspection takes place on a white surface
- check the commodity flowpath to ensure that there is no risk of the consignment being cross-contaminated or substituted before, during or after inspection.
- ensure a trade description is on every horticulture consignment and that it complies with the new policy
- sample using an approved sampling technique - random, systematic, haphazard or selective sampling
- use an approved sampling rate that is 600 units or two percent of packages, unless otherwise specified by the importing country
- when inspecting mixed genera nursery stock consignments, and the selective sampling technique is chosen, categorise the consignment into different risk groups and sample proportionately from each group
- if a pest is detected during inspection, determine if the client would like a formal identification, and prepare and label the pest as per the instructional material
- use the latest version of the Export Compliance Record PE101 or record their inspection in PEMS.

### **Who do I contact if I have any questions relating to these changes?**

For technical questions:

[HorticultureExportsProgramACT@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:HorticultureExportsProgramACT@agriculture.gov.au). For AO training and assessment questions: [PlantExportTraining@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:PlantExportTraining@agriculture.gov.au)



Email: [HorticultureExportsProgramACT@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:HorticultureExportsProgramACT@agriculture.gov.au)



[www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual#product-inspection](http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual#product-inspection)