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Improving Agricultural Export Legislation Certifying goods



Regulating agricultural exports

The current agricultural export legislation provides the basis for the regulation of exports and enables the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to set conditions that must be met to comply with importing country requirements

These conditions include preparing, packaging and handling goods, transportation and registration of export establishments. Export legislation also provides the authority for officials to carry out inspections and certification activities along the supply chain.

These activities enable the department to provide assurance for the integrity of our agricultural exports to overseas countries which helps in maintaining and expanding markets.

Goods we regulate

The types of goods that the export regulation applies to can generally be divided into two categories: prescribed goods and non-prescribed goods.

Prescribed goods have specific export conditions placed on them to ensure they are fit for export to Australia's trading partners, who set import conditions.

Government to Government certification may not be required for a range of goods, so exports are not prohibited and routine export controls are not imposed. If an importing country does require certification for a non-prescribed good, exporters can apply to the department to determine the procedures to be followed, and the requirements to be satisfied, for the issuance of a certificate.

Key points

- The regulation of goods provides assurance to trading partners on the integrity of Australian exports.
- The improved legislation will enable exporters to respond more quickly to changes in importing country requirements.
- Your feedback will help us deliver these improvements. Register your interest at: agriculture.gov.au/export-regulation-review.



Improving legislation

The trade environment has changed significantly since the current legislation was introduced. New products, as well as improvements in market access, have led to an increase in the number of goods the department has been requested to certify. Our processes need to adapt to the changing trade environment.

The improved legislation will better articulate how types of goods can be certified. It will also provide greater flexibility by allowing exporters to demonstrate how they have met importing country requirements for non-prescribed goods. This will enable exporters to respond quicker to changing importing country requirements.

