



October
2013

Goods in very small packages

Plant export inspection techniques guide

PGG3001 Prescribed grain and plant products



How to use this guide

This guide has been written for authorised officers as a reference guide to inspection techniques for plant export commodities. This will help to ensure that all authorised officers maintain nationally consistent inspection techniques for prescribed grain and plant products that are in very small packages (e.g. seeds or flour).

The guide should be read in conjunction with the equipment guide for non-horticulture commodities and current instructional and reference material.

General notes on inspection techniques

Samples of some commodities are drawn using one of the following methods:

- automatically by an automatic sampler
- manually by an authorised officer.

Refer to the relevant work instructions for the right sampling procedures and sample sizes.

Alternative inspection techniques are needed for some commodities, such as:

- goods with a particle size greater than the sieve hole that flow (e.g. grains and seeds)
- goods with a particle size greater than the sieve hole that do not flow (e.g. nuts, meals and pellets)
- goods with a particle size less than the sieve hole (e.g. flour and semolina)
- goods in very small packages (e.g. seeds in packets)
- goods in very large packages (e.g. 'Bulka' bags).

You should assess the consignment and determine the most appropriate equipment and technique to draw the samples and to inspect the goods.

Before you start

Ensure that you:

- check the importing country requirements to determine the requirements for your inspection
- have the correct inspection equipment
- have the correct Export Compliance Record
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- have the current relevant instructional and reference material.

Inspection process

Select a sample from the packages.



If you can spread the sample in the transparent packaging in a single layer, you can inspect the sample through the packaging.



Inspect the packaged sample on a white sheet of paper.



Examine with a hand lens and a torch.



If you cannot spread the sample in a single layer, or if the package is not transparent, pour the sample into a tray.



Spread the contents out thinly and evenly so that pests can be seen easily.



Examine with a hand lens and torch.



What to do if you find a pest or disease

Follow the rejection procedures outlined in the relevant instructional and reference material.

More information

Export Control Act 1982

Export Control (Orders)
Regulations 1982

Export Control (Plants and Plant
Products) Order 2011

Plant export operations manual
(PEOM):

[www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/
export/plants-plant-products/
plantexportsmanual](http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/export/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual)

Manual of Importing Country
Requirements (MICoR—Plants):
www.daff.gov.au/micor/plants



Contaminants, pests and diseases

Contaminants

- artificial colouring
- ergot fungi
- foreign seeds (e.g. weed seeds)
- objectionable material (e.g. wood, metal, plastic)
- odour
- pickling compounds
- sand and soil.

Pests and diseases

Refer to the *Plant export operations manual* for information on pests, diseases and contaminants of export non-horticulture plant products.



Phone 1800 851 305



www.daff.gov.au/plantexportsmanual