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Biosecurity Advice 2021/P11

UPDATED IMPLEMENTATION ADVICE FOR REVISED IMPORT CONDITIONS FOR APIACEOUS VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR SOWING

The [Final review of import conditions for apiaceous vegetable seeds for sowing](#) was released in March 2021. In the final report the fungal pathogen *Cercospora foeniculi* was assessed as seedborne in fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) and a quarantine pest for Australia, and pest risk management measures were proposed to reduce its associated biosecurity risk to an acceptable level.

Further taxonomic review has identified that *Cercospora foeniculi* is a synonym of *Fusoidiella anethi* (the pathogen's preferred name), which is itself known by a synonym *Mycosphaerella anethi* that is present in Australia and not under official control (see Encl. A).

Accordingly, *Cercospora foeniculi* (as *Fusoidiella anethi* and its synonyms) is not a quarantine pest for Australia. Pest risk management measures proposed in the final report will not be implemented; fennel seed will not require a fungicidal treatment or a PCR test for this pest.

The department invites stakeholders interested in receiving information and updates on biosecurity risk analyses to subscribe via the department's online [subscription](#) service. By subscribing to Biosecurity Risk Analysis Plant, you will receive Biosecurity Advice notices and other notifications relating to plant biosecurity policy, including the vegetable seed reviews.

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Encl. A

Supporting information that *Cercospora foeniculi* (as *Fusoidiella anethi* and its synonyms) is present in Australia, determined as not being under official control, and therefore as not being a quarantine pest for Australia includes:

- *Cercospora foeniculi* has been identified as a synonym of *Passalora punctum* and therefore of *Mycosphaerella anethi*, the teleomorph of *Passalora punctum* (Crous & Braun 2003).
- *Mycosphaerella anethi* is present in Australia [New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia] (Plant Health Australia 2021) and not under official control.

References and supporting literature

Crous, PW & Braun, U 2003, *Mycosphaerella and its anamorphs: 1. Names published in Cercospora and Passalora*, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures.

Farr, DF & Rossman, AY 2021, 'Fungal Databases', U.S. National Fungal Collections, ARS, USDA, available at <https://nt.ars-grin.gov/fungaldatabases/>, accessed 2021.

Plant Health Australia 2021, 'Australian Plant Pest Database, online database', available at <http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/resources/australian-plant-pest-database/>, accessed 2021.

Videira, SIR, Groenewald, JZ, Nakashima, C, Braun, U, Barreto, RW, De Wit, PJGM & Crous, PW 2017, 'Mycosphaerellaceae - chaos or clarity?', *Studies in Mycology*, vol. 87, pp. 257-421.