



November 2021

Plant export legislation changes

Plant rules – overview of changes affecting plant-based oils

On 1 January 2021, the Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Rules 2021 (plant rules) are being amended to better align with current business and regulatory practices. This is the first round of amendments since the new plant export legislation commenced in March 2021. The amendments aim to address some areas of inconsistency between the new legislation, and regulatory expectations and business practice.

Changes to plant-based oils

We are proposing to deprescribe plant-based oils even when an importing country requires phytosanitary certification. This is to reflect the way plant-based oils are currently regulated in practice:

- Plant-based oil exporters can still apply for phytosanitary certification where needed to meet the requirements of importing countries such as China.
- Plant-based oil exporters do not require an export permit under plant export legislation prior to exporting goods from Australia.
- Plant-based oils will no longer be charged export tonnage charges. Overall export documentation fees and charges for a consignment will increase slightly, from 1 January 2022, by \$4 for this financial year.

The proposed changes do not change the approach to respond to China's food safety requirements for edible oils. For more information on registering to satisfy China's food safety requirements see the latest [Industry Advice Notices](#).

Background

The plant rules commenced 28 March 2021 and, along with the Export Control Act 2020, set the specific requirements for the export of plants and plant products. We have been tracking areas where the new legislation may not align with current business practice and regulatory expectations, and where additional regulatory improvements are needed. The plant rules will be reviewed annually and amended where needed.

Further information

Email plantexportreform@awe.gov.au

Web

- awe.gov.au/plant-export-leg-changes
- awe.gov.au/market-access-trade/improving-export-legislation

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