



Live animal imports of exotic species/specimens

Preparing a draft assessment report and application to amend the *List of Specimens taken to be Suitable for Live Import* (Live Import List)

Terms of Reference

1. Provide information on the taxonomy of the species.
2. Provide information on the status of the species under the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES). For example, is the species listed on CITES Appendix I, II or III, and if so, are there any specific restrictions on the movement of this species? Include information on the conservation value of the species.
3. Provide information about the ecology of the species. Include, but do not restrict your response to:
 - lifespan of the species
 - size and weight range
 - the natural geographic range
 - habitat
 - diet, including potential to feed on agricultural plants
 - social behaviour and groupings
 - territorial and aggressive behaviours
 - natural predators
 - characteristics that may cause harm to humans and other species.
4. Provide information on the reproductive biology of the species, including
 - the age at maturity (first breeding)
 - how frequently breeding occurs
 - if the female can store sperm
 - how many eggs or live-born young are produced at each breeding event
 - if the species has hybridised with other species (both in the wild and in captivity) or has the potential to hybridise with any other species
 - if the species can hybridise, are the progeny fertile.

5. Provide information on whether this species has established feral populations, and if so, where those populations are. Include information on whether this species has been introduced to other countries, even if it has not established feral populations.
6. Provide information on, and the results of any other environmental risk assessments undertaken on the species both in Australia and overseas, including any Import Risk Analyses undertaken.
7. Assess the likelihood that the species could establish a breeding population in the Australian environment should it ever be released from effective human control. Include at least the following factors:
 - ability to find food sources
 - ability to survive and adapt to different climatic conditions (e.g. temperatures, rainfall patterns)
 - ability to find shelter
 - rate of reproducing
 - any characteristics that the species has which could increase its chance of survival in the Australian environment.
8. Provide a comprehensive assessment of the potential impact of the species should it establish feral population/s in Australia. Include, but do not restrict your assessment to the impact of this species on:
 - similar niche species (i.e. competition with other species for food, shelter etc.)
 - is the species susceptible to, or could it transmit any pests or disease
 - probable prey/food sources, including agricultural crops
 - habitat and local environmental conditions
 - any control/eradication programs that could be applied in Australia if the species was released or escaped
 - any characteristic or behaviour of the species which may cause land degradation i.e. soil erosion from hooves, digging
 - any potential threat to humans.
9. What conditions or restrictions, if any, could be applied to the import of the species to reduce any potential for negative environmental impacts (e.g. single sex imports, desexing animal prior to import etc.).
10. Provide a summary of the types of activities that the specimen may be used for if imported into Australia (e.g. pet, commercial, scientific). You must discuss:
 - the benefit of this species for these activities
 - potential trade in the species
 - why this species has been chosen.

11. Provide detailed guidelines on the way in which the species should be kept, transported and disposed of in accordance with the types of activity that the species may be used for if imported into Australia. You must include:

- the containment (e.g. cage, enclosure) and management standards for this species to prevent escape or release. This should also talk about the security standards for this specimen
- the disposal options for surplus specimens.

12. Provide information on all other Commonwealth, state and territory legislative controls on the species, including:

- the species' current quarantine status, or
- pest or noxious status, or
- whether it is prohibited or controlled by permit or licence in any state or territory.