



Live animal imports of exotic species/specimens into secure facilities for research purposes only (Part 2 of the Live Import List)

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

Research Terms of Reference

These terms of reference should be used by researchers wanting to import species that are not currently on the Live Import List for the purposes of research. The terms of reference outline the information that is required as part of an application to amend the Live Import List to include a new species for research purposes only. These Terms of Reference do not apply to applications relating to biocontrol agents. There are separate Terms of Reference for applications of this nature at: [biocontrol-terms-reference.doc](#)

1. Provide information on the taxonomy of the species.
2. Provide details on the way in which the species should be kept, transported and disposed of in accordance with the types of activity that the species will 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. Include information on the security standards for this specimen including a discussion of why the proposed containment facilities are considered appropriate to mitigate the level of environmental risk posed by the species;
 - procedures for the recovery or extermination of any escaped specimens; and
 - the disposal options for surplus specimens and at the conclusion of the research.
3. 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.
4. Provide an analysis of the overall potential impacts on the Australian environment should the species escape containment, including a statement on the likelihood that the species could become an environmental pest.
5. 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.).
6. Provide a summary of the proposed purpose of import, including why this species has been chosen for import and details of the research facilities, including:

- If the applicant is not the primary researcher, please provide the name of the person primarily responsible for this research and the name of the institution in which the research will be conducted
 - research affiliation/s e.g. University, CSIRO, Government Department etc;
 - the type and certification level of the containment facilities where the species will be held.
 - security procedures, including a discussion of why the proposed security procedures (including disposal of waste/wastewater) are considered appropriate to mitigate the level of environmental risk posed by the species.
 - Why the species selected is the best species suitable for the research to be undertaken (if there another suitable species available from within Australia why is this species not being used?).
 - Will individual specimens be able to be identified and tracked through the import process? (e.g. microchipped tattooed animals).
7. Provide information on the status of the species under the following international conventions:
- *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?
 - International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List conservation status
 - *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (CMS).
8. 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 and how this range matches Australia's climate.(you can do this using 'Climatch' at the following address;
<https://climatch.cp1.agriculture.gov.au/climatch.jsp>)
 - habitat;
 - diet, including potential to feed on agricultural plants;
 - social behaviour and groupings;
 - territorial and aggressive behaviours;
 - natural predators; and
 - characteristics that may cause harm to humans and other species.
9. 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; and
- if the species can hybridise, are the progeny fertile?
- is the species capable of Parthenogenesis or sequential hermaphroditism?

10. Provide information on all other Commonwealth, state and territory legislative controls on the species and proposed research, including any state/ territory risk assessments of the species available.