



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



22 April 2002

## **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/15**

### **AMENDMENTS TO IMPORT PROTOCOLS FOR CERTAIN ZOO ANIMALS**

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides advice to stakeholders on changes to import requirements for certain zoo animals, including the temporary suspension of conditions for zoo rodents.

Biosecurity Australia constantly monitors import conditions for commodities and live animals to ensure they are relevant and up-to-date. Some seldom-used protocols for the importation of specific families of zoo animals were found to require amendments. These were:

- Quarantine requirements for the importation of zoo perissodactyls from the USA;
- Quarantine requirements for the importation of zoo perissodactyls from Member States of the European Union;
- Quarantine requirements for the importation of zoo perissodactyls from Singapore;
- Interim quarantine requirements for the importation of zoo carnivores;
- Interim quarantine requirements for the importation of marsupials and monotremes; and
- Quarantine requirements for the importation of rodents into Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) registered zoos.

#### Export premises

A clause has been inserted in all the above import conditions, consistent with other zoo animal protocols, that the premises of export must be a government registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park that has been inspected by a veterinarian approved by AQIS and has current approval from AQIS to export live zoo animals to Australia.

#### Zoo perissodactyls

Amendments to the conditions for the importation of zoo perissodactyls from the USA, European Union and Singapore include the removal of rhinoceros and tapirs, such that only the Przewalski horse and zebra can be imported. This follows the development of separate conditions for the importation of rhinoceros. Testing for tuberculosis has also been removed, as it was a requirement for rhinoceros only.

#### Zoo carnivores

With regard to the interim requirements for the importation of zoo carnivores, the reference to A and B class zoos under the post arrival conditions has been changed to state a 'quarantine approved facility'. It should be noted that an import



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risk analysis for Felidae has been finalised and conditions adopted. Felidae will no longer be covered by the interim requirements.

### Marsupials and monotremes

The description relating to animals covered by the protocol for the importation of marsupials and monotremes has been changed to permit import of only those belonging to Australian and Papuan New Guinean taxa. Because of the high incidence of tuberculosis in brushtail possums in New Zealand, these animals have been excluded.

### Rodents

The protocol for the importation of rodents has been temporarily suspended in light of additional information on haemoparasites (eg Trypanosomes, Babesias), which suggests that further study of these disease agents, is warranted. The conditions will be suspended pending a review.

### **Next Steps**

Any stakeholders wishing to comment on this Memorandum are welcome to do so. I would also be grateful if you would pass details of this advice to other interested parties, who should advise Biosecurity Australia if they wish to be included in future communications on this matter.

### **Confidentiality**

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the *Privacy Act*.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act*.

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