



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

18 February 2005

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2005/02

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR TO THE IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS TEAM

FOR BANANAS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum informs stakeholders of a change to the Import Risk Analysis Team for the Import Risk Analysis on Philippine bananas.

The position of Chair of the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) Team assessing the application to import fresh bananas from the Philippines is currently vacant. In accordance with the process identified in the Import Risk Analysis Handbook, I have decided to appoint Dr Brian Stynes to the IRA Team as the new Chair.

Dr Stynes is currently the General Manager of Plant Biosecurity, Biosecurity Australia. He has extensive experience in the field of plant biosecurity (see attached *curriculum vitae*) and I anticipate he will be able to make a significant contribution to this IRA.

The current membership of the IRA Team on Philippines bananas comprises:

Dr Brian Stynes (Chair)
Dr Rob Allen
Dr Bryan Cantrell
Mr Bob Paton
Mr David Peasley
Mr Mike Robbins
Dr Sharan Singh.

Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Plant 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 1988*.

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 1982*.

Consultation

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to Technical and Administrative Services.

Information on all IRAs and policy reviews being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the Internet at www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity.

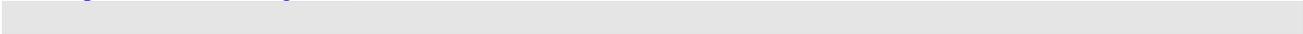
John Cahill
Interim Chief Executive

Contact: Technical and Administrative Services

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DR BRIAN STYNES

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

BSc Agric (University of Sydney), MSc Agric (University of Sydney), PhD (University of Adelaide)

PREVIOUS POSITIONS:

2000 - present	General Manager, Plant Biosecurity, Biosecurity Australia, department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Canberra
1998 - 2000	A/g Director, Policy & International Division and Assistant Director, Plant Quarantine Policy Branch, Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service, Canberra
1996 - 1998	Program Manager, New Industries, Agriculture Western Australia, Perth
1994 - 1996	Program Manager, RIRDC, Canberra
1993 - 1994	General Manager, Agwest Development, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1991 - 1993	Director, Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1991	Consultant, Quality Management, Aust. Horticultural Corporation, Sydney
1987 - 1991	Director, Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1984 - 1987	Chief, Division of Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1983 - 1984	Visiting Research Associate, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
1980 - 1983	Senior Plant Pathologist, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1979	Reserve Bank Fellow, CSIRO, Adelaide
1975-1979	Plant Pathologist, Department of Agriculture, Perth
1966 - 1972	Plant Pathologist, Australian Turf Grass Research Institute, Sydney

WORK EXPERIENCE:

A long career with extensive experience and expertise in quarantine regulation, trade development and research and development, particularly related to plant pests and disease:

- As General Manager of Plant Biosecurity and formerly Assistant Director of Plant Quarantine Policy, responsible for developing policy to keep unwanted pests and diseases of plants and plant products out of Australia and facilitating safe trade of plants and plant products between Australia and its trading partners. Also responsible for ensuring Australia's interests are taken into account in international forums, conventions and agreements that specify international standards and risk analyses guidelines underpinning quarantine regulation and assisting export facilitation. This position and earlier appointments has involved extensive national and international travel and has brought with it, extensive experience in working with industries and governments at all levels.
- Previously as a member of Executive with Agriculture Western Australia, responsible for establishing a New Industries Program and an earlier Program, Agwest Trade and Development. Both these business groups aimed to make the organisation more responsive to the external trade environment and focused on increasing trade and investment, and technology exchange in agriculture, by working with the private sector, other public sector agencies and drawing upon the technical resources of the Department.
- The trade related portfolios complemented an earlier role as Director of Horticulture, which also included the regulatory appointments of Chief Quarantine (Plants) and State Supervising Officer for Western Australia. As Director of Horticulture, responsible for public sector investment in research and development aligning with industry development plans. Chief Quarantine Officer responsibilities were broad ranging, but included managing the successful eradication from WA of several pest and disease incursions of national interest, including black spot of apples, codling moth, potato cyst nematode and Queensland fruit fly.
- Prior to taking on administrative appointments, held a succession of research positions underpinned by broad training in plant pathology, with particular interests in epidemiology and host-parasite relations in intensive and broad acre agriculture and the analyses of complex biological systems using statistical

modelling and multivariate mathematical procedures. More than 50 refereed publications resulted from this work.

- A number of short term postings and consultancies completed over this period include positions as a Program Manager, Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, responsible for investment in a portfolio of research and development covering a wide range of new and emerging industries across Australia (1994-1996); Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Arizona in 1984; and a Reserve Bank Fellowship with CSIRO Division of Horticulture, Adelaide, in 1979.