



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

9 August 2005

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2005/10

**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF EXISTING POLICY – NEW ZEALAND STONEFRUIT
INTO WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

The purpose of this Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to notify you of a proposed extension of existing policy for the importation of stone fruit from New Zealand into Western Australia.

In response to a market access request from New Zealand, Biosecurity Australia (BA) has conducted a pest risk analysis to determine whether stone fruit could be imported safely from New Zealand into Western Australia (WA).

Australia already has existing policy for the importation of stone fruit from NZ into all Australian states and territories except WA. Consequently, the importation of stone fruit from NZ into WA is being considered as an extension of existing policy.

The *Draft Extension of Existing Policy for stone fruit from New Zealand into Western Australia* has now been completed.

BA would like to thank the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia for their technical input to the draft report.

A copy of the executive summary for the draft report on the extension of existing policy for stone fruit from New Zealand is attached for your information (Attachment 1). The full report is available on the Biosecurity Australia website at www.daff.gov.au/biosecurityaustralia under 'Current Topics'. A hard copy of the document can be requested from Technical and Administrative Services.

Comments on the draft extension of policy for stone fruit from New Zealand into Western Australia should be submitted by 8 September 2005 to the following address:

Technical and Administrative Services
Plant Biosecurity
Biosecurity Australia
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6272 5094
Fax: (02) 6272 3307
Email: plantbiosec@daff.gov.au

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.

Louise van Meurs
General Manager
Plant Biosecurity

Contact: Technical and Administrative Services
Tel: 02 6272 5094
Fax: 02 6272 3307
Email: plantbiosec@daff.gov.au

Executive Summary

Draft Extension of Existing Policy Report – Stone Fruit from New Zealand into Western Australia

This draft extension of existing policy proposes that stone fruit from New Zealand be allowed entry into Western Australia subject to phytosanitary measures for oriental fruit moth, citrophilus mealybug, leafrollers, thrips and New Zealand wheat bug (as a contaminating pest). These pests will require the use of risk management measures in addition to New Zealand's standard commercial production practices.

The specific risk management measures and operational procedures proposed are:

- pest free area or area of low pest prevalence or methyl bromide fumigation for oriental fruit moth;
- inspection and remedial action for citrophilus mealybug, leafrollers, thrips and New Zealand wheat bug; and
- supporting operational systems to maintain and verify phytosanitary status.

These proposed measures and procedures aim to provide a high level of sanitary and phytosanitary protection that will reduce risk to a level below Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP).

This extension of existing policy is proposed in response to an application made by New Zealand in 2000 seeking access for its stone fruit (apricot, cherry, nectarine, peach and plum) into Western Australia. The extension of policy is based on existing policy and on risk analyses for additional pests that have quarantine status in Western Australia. Existing policy that was reviewed includes policy for the importation into Western Australia of cherry fruit from South Australia (completed in September 2001), from New Zealand (completed in January 2003) and from Tasmania (completed in January 2004) and subsequently apricot fruit from South Australia and Tasmania (completed in October 2004).

The pest risk analysis process for additional pests that may be associated with stone fruit from New Zealand and have quarantine status in Western Australia identified 293 pests (132 arthropods, 75 biological control agents and 86 pathogens) associated with stone fruit production in New Zealand. Of these 293 pests, 46 pests (43 arthropods and 3 pathogens) were considered to be associated with the fruit pathway. Of these 46 pests, 21 arthropods and three pathogens were not present in Western Australia and were found to have the potential for entry, establishment or spread within Western Australia as well as associated potential economic consequences. On this basis, 24 pests were categorised as quarantine pests for Western Australia.

The detailed risk assessments for these quarantine pests determined unrestricted risk estimates for each organism. For each pest with an unrestricted risk above Australia's ALOP, risk management measures were considered. This report presents details of proposed risk management measures, operational procedures and draft import conditions, together with their objectives.

Biosecurity Australia invites comments on the technical and economic feasibility of the proposed risk management measures. In particular, comments are sought on their appropriateness and on any other measures that stakeholders consider would provide equivalent risk management.