



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

21 September 2005

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2005/12

FINAL IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR TABLE GRAPES FROM CHILE

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to notify stakeholders of the release of the final import risk analysis (IRA) report for table grapes from Chile.

In response to an import access request from Chile, Biosecurity Australia has conducted an import risk analysis (IRA) on a proposal to import table grapes (*Vitis vinifera*) into Australia.

The Chief Executive, Biosecurity Australia has released the final IRA report and recommends a policy determination which will set the parameters for the importation of table grapes from Chile into Australia. These recommended phytosanitary measures are outlined in the executive summary (Attachment 1) and further detail is given in the 'import conditions' section of the final IRA report. These requirements will reduce the risk to a very low level to meet Australia's appropriate level of protection and accord with Australia's international rights and obligations under the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

The final IRA report is available from the Biosecurity Australia website at www.daff.gov.au/biosecurityaustralia under 'current topics' or copies can be requested from Technical and Administrative Services at the following address:

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

Telephone: (02) 6272 5094
Facsimile: (02) 6272 3307
E-mail: plantbiosec@daff.gov.au

Stakeholders may appeal against the final IRA report if there was a significant deviation from the process set out in the Import Risk Analysis Handbook (2003) that adversely affected the interests of a stakeholder, or if a significant body of scientific information relevant to the outcome of the IRA was not considered. Appeals should be sent by close of business 22 October 2005 to the Import Risk Analysis Appeal Panel (IRAAP), at the following address:

The Manager
IRAAP
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Facsimile: (02) 6272 5926

E-mail: iraap@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 on 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 <http://www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity>

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Executive Summary

This import risk analysis (IRA) recommends that table grapes from Chile be allowed entry into Australia subject to phytosanitary measures for Mediterranean fruit fly, Chilean false red mite, weevils, mealybugs, leafrollers, black widow spider (as a contaminating pest) and pest plants. These pests require the use of risk management measures, in addition to Chile's standard commercial production practices, to reduce the risk to a very low level to meet Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP).

State legislation in Western Australia currently prohibits the importation of fresh table grapes from any source, including other Australian States and Territories. The Western Australian State legislation requires modification before imports of table grapes into that State can occur.

A combination of risk management measures and operational systems will reduce the risk associated with the importation of table grapes from Chile to meet Australia's ALOP, specifically:

- pest free area status for Mediterranean fruit fly;
- pre-shipment fumigation with SO₂/CO₂ for black widow spider;
- methyl bromide fumigation for Chilean false red mite;
- inspection and remedial action for weevils, mealybugs, leafrollers and pest plants; and
- supporting operational systems to maintain and verify phytosanitary status.

A pre-clearance program is recommended, based on full or partial pre-clearance arrangements in Chile. The partial pre-clearance option allows methyl bromide fumigation to be undertaken on-arrival in Australia and has the advantage that any consignments that have been found with quarantine pest risks during pre-clearance inspection by AQIS in Chile that are not managed by methyl bromide fumigation, will not be exported from Chile to Australia.

Australia initiated an IRA for table grapes from Chile in December 1998, following a request from Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG) for market access in 1995. Biosecurity Australia circulated the technical issues paper in September 2002, the draft IRA report in June 2003 and the revised draft IRA report in February 2005. Stakeholder comments were considered and material matters raised have been incorporated into, or addressed in, this final IRA report.

The *Final Import Risk Analysis Report* contains the following:

Australia's framework for biosecurity policy and import risk analysis, the international framework for trade in plants and plant products, Australia's current policy for importation of table grapes and information on the background to this IRA;

- an outline of the methodology and results of pest categorisation and risk assessment;
- risk management measures;
- final import conditions for table grapes from Chile;
- further steps in the IRA process; and
- a table of stakeholders who commented on the revised draft IRA report and a summary of the main issues raised by these stakeholders.

Detailed risk assessments were conducted for those pests that were categorised as quarantine pests, to determine an unrestricted risk estimate for each organism. For those pests for which the unrestricted risk was estimated to be above Australia's ALOP, risk management measures were identified and selected.

Consultation with SAG, and input from stakeholders on the draft import conditions, has resulted in a set of final risk management measures. Details of these measures, including their objectives, are provided within this final IRA report.

Biosecurity Australia has made a number of changes to the risk analysis following consideration of stakeholder comments on the revised draft IRA report. These changes include:

- removal of spider mites from the risk assessments for quarantine pests, as no reference could be found to support the pathway association of these pests;
- a reduction in the probability of establishment for weevils from high to moderate on the basis of the long generation period of 19-20 months;
- a reduction in the probability of distribution of *Phomopsis viticola* to very low on the basis that the events necessary to transfer conidia to a host would be very unlikely to occur;
- an increase in the probability of establishment of *Phomopsis viticola* to high following reconsideration of the influence of climatic factors on the potential for infection in Western Australia and climate modelling analysis provided by the Department of Agriculture Western Australia;
- an increase in the probability of spread of *Phomopsis viticola* to moderate following reconsideration of the likelihood that the fungus could be distributed in infected propagation material;
- a reduction in the consequences of *Phomopsis viticola* to low following advice from Australian experts on the economic importance of this pathogen; and
- a revision of the methodology for pest plants.