



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

1 December 2005

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2005/20

**REVISED DRAFT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR
APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND**

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) is to notify stakeholders of the release of the revised draft import risk analysis (IRA) report for apples from New Zealand and advises stakeholders of their opportunity to provide comment to Biosecurity Australia on the report.

In December 2004 the Australian Government announced that Biosecurity Australia would be established as a prescribed Agency, and would review all IRAs in progress and reissue them as revised drafts for a further period of public comment. The IRA for apples from New Zealand was one of the IRAs affected by this announcement.

The review of this IRA, including the assessment of the substantial number of stakeholder comments received on the February 2004 draft IRA report for apples from New Zealand, has now been completed. The Chief Executive, Biosecurity Australia, has now agreed to the release of a revised draft IRA report for the importation of apples from New Zealand for comment by stakeholders by 30 March 2006. Biosecurity Australia is providing an extended comment period of 120 days for stakeholders to submit comments, compared with the usual period of 60 days.

This extended comment period takes account of the following:

- the need for stakeholders to have sufficient time to absorb and comment on the very substantial and detailed material contained in the report's three volumes
- that relevant stakeholders are engaged in fruit harvesting during this time in both Australia and New Zealand
- that stakeholders are not disadvantaged as a result of the seasonal holidays in both countries.

The *Revised draft IRA report for apples from New Zealand, Parts A, B and C* is available from the Biosecurity Australia website at www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au. A hard copy of the document can be requested from Technical and Administrative Services. In addition, Biosecurity Australia will post on this website a corrigendum of corrections that may be required that come to its attention during the consultation period.

Comments on the revised draft IRA report for apples from New Zealand should be submitted by 30 March 2006 to 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

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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