



Queensland
Government

Department of
Agriculture and Fisheries

Reference: CTS03303/19

26 FEB 2019

Dr Marion Healy
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Marion

Dear Dr Healy

Thank you for your letter of 14 November 2018 regarding the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources' (DAWR) request for submissions on the *'Draft pest risk analysis for cut flower and foliage imports—Part 1'* (the draft report).

The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has reviewed the Draft Report and notes that the importation of commercially produced fresh cut flower and foliage from all countries to Australia for decorative purposes will be permitted, subject to specific quarantine measures.

My Department also notes that DAWR assessed three major groups of arthropod pests arriving with these imports: thrips, aphids and mites. DAWR identified 132 pests of quarantine concern to Australia that require quarantine measures to manage their biosecurity risk to an acceptable level for Australia. Accordingly, DAWR proposed three alternative risk mitigation measures in the Draft Report. These measures include: a systems approach approved by National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPO), or pre-shipment methyl bromide fumigation, or an NPPO-approved alternative pre-shipment disinfestation treatment.

DAF supports the proposed measures, and agrees that they reduce the associated biosecurity risk to meet Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP). However, DAF suggests that a list of permitted cut flower plant species be included in an appendix to the Draft Report.

The Queensland Government is supportive of keeping the domestic flower production clear of exotic pests and diseases.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Report. DAF would appreciate being involved in any further review processes leading to the finalisation of this Report and for DAWR to keep DAF informed of future biosecurity risk after the protocol is in place.

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Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Woods

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