October 2013
Hay and straw
Plant export inspection techniques guide
HAS3001 Hay and straw

How to use this guide
This guide has been written for authorised officers as a reference guide to inspection techniques for plant export commodities. This will help to ensure that all authorised officers maintain nationally consistent inspection techniques for hay and straw commodities.

The guide should be read in conjunction with the equipment guide for non-horticulture commodities and current instructional and reference material.

Before you start
Ensure that you:

- check the importing country requirements to determine the requirements for your inspection
- have the correct inspection equipment
- have the correct Export Compliance Record
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- have the current relevant instructional and reference material.
**Inspection process**

Inspect the surface of the bale for live pests, vermin and their waste, and contaminants.

Cut the straps of the bale.

Split the bale into subsamples ('biscuits') from across the bale.

Inspect all surfaces of the biscuit.

Break the biscuit up into pieces that will fit into a sieve. Shake the pieces out over the inspection bench to remove the loose particles.
Place the remainder of the sample in
the sieve.

Shake the sieve vigorously for at least
30 seconds, but preferably longer (1 minute).
Move the sieve in all directions until all fines
are in the pan.

Inspect the contents of the top section of
the sieve and the lower pan of the sieve
separately for live pests, vermin waste
and contaminants.

If the sample in the sieve pan is too dense,
spread it over a large, clean area on the
inspection bench. Examine the entire sample
closely with a magnifying lens and torch,
if necessary.
What to do if you find a pest or disease

Follow the rejection procedures outlined in the relevant instructional and reference material.

More information

*Export Control Act 1982*

*Export Control (Orders) Regulations 1982*

*Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Order 2011*


Contaminants, pests and diseases

**Contaminants**

- sand and soil
- timber
- metal
- weed seeds.

**Pests and diseases**

- psocids
- beetles
- bugs.

Refer to the *Plant export operations manual* for more information on pests, diseases and contaminants of export non-horticulture products.