



8 August 2014

INDUSTRY ADVICE NOTICE NO: 2014/23

Plant Exports Operations – Suspension of trade of certain Australian plants and plant products to the Russian Federation

Purpose

To advise Australian exporters that the Russian Federation has imposed a ban on the importation of certain plants and plant products to the Russian Federation.

Background

On 6 August 2014, the Russian President, Vladimir Putin, signed a Presidential Decree on the '*Application of Certain Special Economic Measures to Protect the National Security of the Russian Federation*'. An unofficial translation of the Decree is provided at Attachment 1.

This Decree imposes an immediate ban, for one year, on imports of specified agricultural products originating from countries including Australia, US, EU, Norway and Canada. The list includes beef, pork, poultry, fresh fish, a range of dairy products, fresh, frozen, dried and preserved fruits and vegetables including edible roots and tuber crops, nuts (fresh or dried), dried leguminous beans/seeds, malt extract and products prepared from flour originating from a range of countries including Australia.

The unofficial translation of the list of agricultural products, raw materials and food affected by the decree, identified by HS (Harmonized Systems) Code, is provided at Attachment 2.

It is unclear whether Russia will allow entry of the products covered under the Decree that are currently en-route to Russia. The department is urgently seeking clarification in this regard. In the interim, exporters are advised to consider alternate market / 'return to Australia' options.

The department will work with exporters to facilitate re-certification for alternate markets and import permits for product returning to Australia:

- To discuss re-certification arrangements, exporters should contact:

Exdocplantprograms@agriculture.gov.au or telephone: 02 6272 4429

- To discuss 'return to Australia' arrangements, exporters should contact:

plantquar@agriculture.gov.au or telephone: 02 6272 3917

If exporters do intend to or are considering the return of products to Australia we would advise, where possible, they keep container seals intact.

The department will keep exporters updated of any relevant developments.

Peter Creaser
A/g Assistant Secretary
Plant Export Operations