

8 March 2004

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2004/06

EXTENSION FOR THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE REVISED DRAFT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to notify stakeholders of a 30-day extension to the comment period for the revised draft import risk analysis (IRA) report for apples from New Zealand. Comments will now be accepted until close of business on 24 May 2004.

Biosecurity Australia has extended the period for comments on the revised draft IRA report for apples from New Zealand for 30-days until Monday 24 May 2004.

The extension has been granted taking into consideration that the apple industry is in the middle of its annual harvest and that stakeholders have expressed concerns that 60 days may not be enough time for them to review the science and provide meaningful comment.

The announcement of the extension has been made now to ensure that no stakeholders are disadvantaged.

Submissions should be addressed to:

Technical and Administrative Services Plant Biosecurity Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6272 5094 Facsimile: (02) 6272 3307

E-mail: plantbiosec@daff.gov.au

The revised draft IRA report is available from the Departmental website at www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity. Copies can be requested in either hard copy or CD ROM format from Technical and Administrative Services at the above address.

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 in 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 www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity.

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