November 2024

AusTreat

# Introduction of AusTreat

## What is AusTreat?

AusTreat is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry’s pre-border biosecurity treatment assurance scheme. AusTreat has replaced the existing Offshore BMSB Treatment Providers Scheme and sets the conditions for the regulation of pre-border biosecurity treatment providers.

AusTreat is managed as a government-to-industry scheme. This means that the department registers individual treatment provider companies under the scheme, and registered treatment providers are listed on the [List of Treatment Providers](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/before/prepare/treatment-outside-australia/pre-border-biosecurity-treatment-providers) on the department’s website.

### What is changing?

* **Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry** **administers the scheme for goods imported into Australia.** Also, the New Zealand Ministry of Primary Industries recognises the List of Treatment Providers for goods treated pre-border.
* **AusTreat registration lasts for a 3 year period.** Registration will last for a 3 year period instead of 1 year, and only some information will need to be provided annually to maintain registration.
* **AusTreat is no longer pest or pathway specific.** Treatment providers register for treatment types instead, and can currently register for heat treatment, methyl bromide, and sulfuryl fluoride.

### What are the benefits?

* AusTreat is not pest or pathway specific, allowing for a future proof system that can proactively respond to an increasing number of priority biosecurity risks.
* These changes will increase the assurance of offshore treatments and in turn, reduce the need to manage biosecurity risk at Australia’s border.
* This simplifies requirements for industry: one set of requirements, one place to get information, and a 3 year renewal period.

### Application process

AusTreat commenced on 1 September 2024. All Brown Marmorated Stink Bug treatment providers are required to do the following 3 steps to register to be an approved treatment provider under AusTreat:

* complete an AusTreat registration and treatment type application form
* complete the knowledge assessment/s for AusTreat policy, and the treatments you are registering for
* provide photos of all treatment equipment and processes.

### Have any questions?

We have a dedicated email to respond to queries: [offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au](mailto:offshoretreatments@aff.gov.au)

Please note that the BMSB mailbox has been retired, but any emails send to it will be automatically forwarded to the offshore treatments mailbox.

**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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