



Biosecurity status

Checklist to prepare a vessel for release from biosecurity control

August 2024

Submit a *Release From Biosecurity Control Request* using MARS.

Review the import conditions of your goods using the department's Biosecurity Import Conditions database [BICON](#) prior to onboard assessment.

Arrange a suitable time for the inspection to take place with the local department biosecurity office.

Arrange the management of biosecurity waste in accordance with departmental requirements.

Submit a *Waste Removal Request* using MARS.

Provide any supporting documents for your goods assessment onboard e.g. Import Permits, invoices, manifest and manufacturers declarations.

Ensure all food waste, storage and preparation areas are cleaned with an approved cleaning agent (e.g. sodium hypochlorite) prior to on board inspection

Notify your local department office if any goods are being transhipped.

Masters and shipping agents should be aware of department requirements under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and ensure the master/operator of the vessel has completed all appropriate steps.

- The operator of the vessel is obligated to accurately report information in accordance with section 193 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- Where the vessel operator uses a shipping agent, the agent is responsible for reporting and the lodgement of accurate and timely information into MARS.
- The operator must follow directions given by the department including the conditions stated on the Biosecurity Status Document (BSD).
- Further information can be found on the department's website [Release from biosecurity control - DAFF \(agriculture.gov.au\)](#)

This checklist is just one tool to help vessel operators comply with Australia's biosecurity requirements.

