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

Plant export operations manual (PEOM): www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/ export/plants-plant-products/ plantexportsmanual

Manual of Importing Country Requirements (MICoR—Plants): www.daff.gov.au/micor/plants

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.