



4 March 2025

Assessment process for dairy products manufactured in, or exported from, countries not on the FMD-free country list

Publication of the [Import risk review for dairy products for human consumption](#) (dairy review) means that expanded risk management options will be available for dairy products manufactured in, or exported from, countries not on the [FMD-free country list](#). This is the list of countries the Director of Biosecurity is satisfied are free of foot and mouth disease (FMD).

Biosecurity measures are still required to manage the risk of foot and mouth disease virus (FMDV) in imported dairy products. Section 4.2.1 of the dairy review specifies the risk management measures for FMDV that are needed to meet [Australia's appropriate level of protection](#).

Before a dairy product can be imported from a country not on the FMD-free country list, a risk assessment must be conducted by the department to determine whether the product meets the risk management measures specified in the dairy review. Trade will only be allowed if the risk assessment finds that FMDV risks are managed to a level that meets Australia's ALOP.

Assessment of FMDV risk in dairy products

A risk assessment will consider the following key components to determine whether a dairy product meets the FMDV risk management measures specified in the dairy review:

- Heat treatment/processing applied during manufacturing of the dairy products. If the country/zone of origin of the dairy product is not on the department's [FMD-Free Country List](#), this must include a heat treatment equivalent to a moist heat treatment reaching a core temperature of no less than 100°C, retained at such a temperature for no less than 30 minutes.
- Oversight of the offshore manufacturer(s) and supply chain by the relevant competent authority.
- Processes in place at manufacturing facilities that manage the risk associated with substitution or contamination of a product or production line.

An assessment will only be possible where there is a commitment from the relevant competent authority to engage with us. Prospective importers must be aware that assessments can be resource intensive for both the department and competent authority and may take some time to complete.

Initiating an assessment and next steps

To facilitate an assessment, the competent authority will need to provide a formal market access request for the dairy product in-writing to the department. Requests should be sent to animalbiosecurity@aff.gov.au.

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Once the request has been received and prioritised, the assessment (summarised in **Appendix A**) will include the following steps:

- Completion of a questionnaire by the competent authority and facilities involved in the supply chain.
- Desktop evaluation using the information provided in the questionnaire.
- An in-country verification visit may be conducted.
- Following the completion of a satisfactory assessment, the negotiation and agreement of relevant documentary evidence requirements and establishment of suitable systems for ongoing assurance.

More information

Learn more about the [Import risk review for dairy products for human consumption](#).

Email animalbiosecurity@aff.gov.au

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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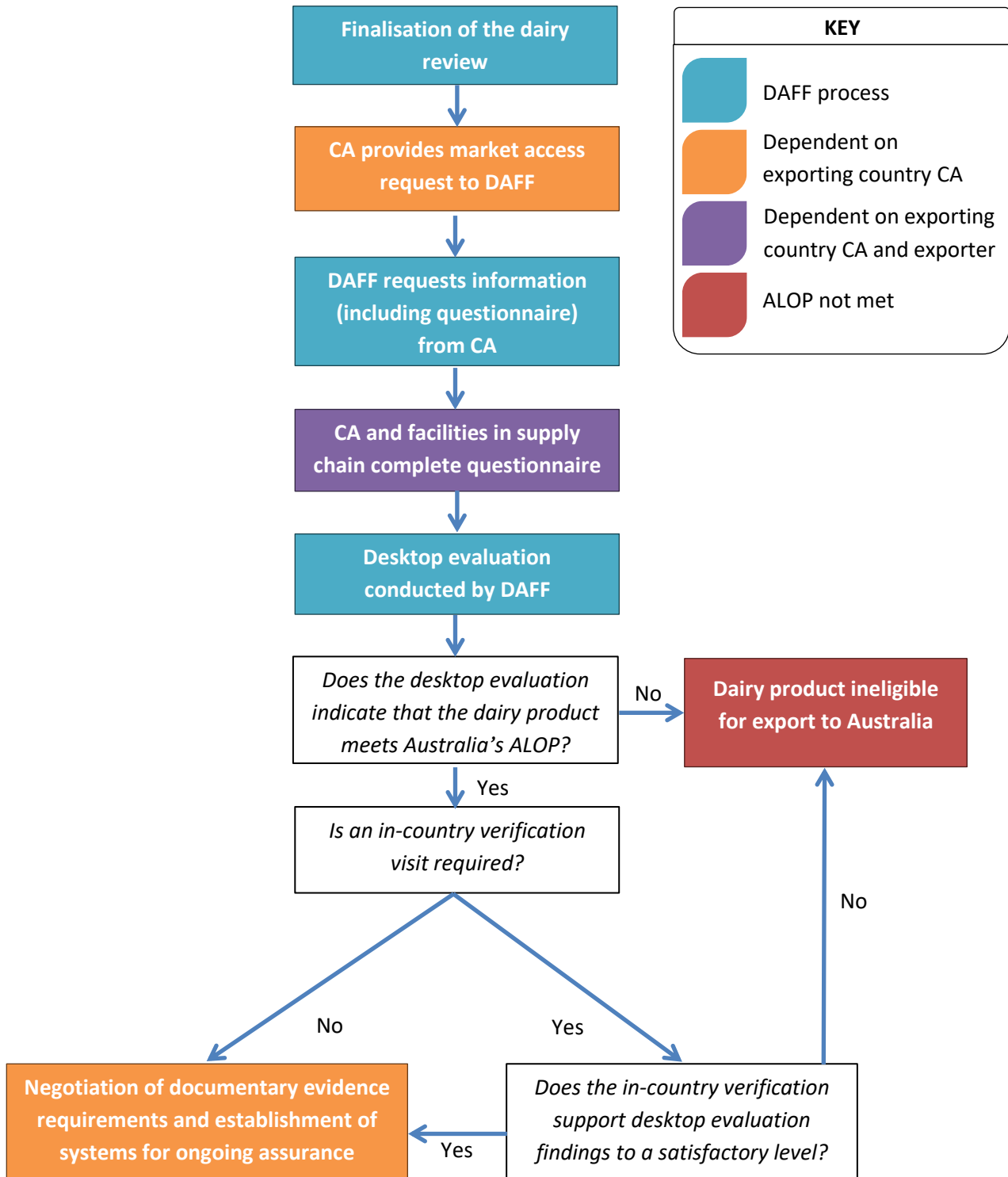
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Appendix A - Summary of assessment process for dairy products manufactured in, or exported from, countries not on the department’s FMD-Free Country List.



ALOP Appropriate level of protection. CA Competent authority. DAFF Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.