



February 2025

New import permit requirements: Brassicaceous and Cucurbitaceous seed for sowing

Overview

We are introducing a mandatory import permit requirement for certain species of Brassicaceous and Cucurbitaceous seed that are imported for an end use of sowing.

This requirement will commence on 1 July 2025 and apply to imports from any country.

Importers may apply for import permits through BICON from 1 April 2025.



What is changing

From 1 July 2025, an import permit will be required for the following Brassicaceous and Cucurbitaceous seed (including all synonyms and subordinate taxa) that are imported for sowing from any country:

- Brassicaceous seed
 - *Brassica rapa* (turnip, bok choy)
 - *Eruca vesicaria* (rocket)
 - *Raphanus sativus* (radish)
- Cucurbitaceae seed
 - *Citrullus lanatus* (watermelon)
 - *Cucumis melo* (cantaloupe)
 - *Cucumis sativus* (cucumber)
 - *Cucurbita maxima* (winter squash, pumpkin)
 - *Cucurbita moschata* (butternut squash, pumpkin)
 - *Cucurbita pepo* (zucchini)
 - *Lagenaria siceraria* (bottle gourd)
 - *Trichosanthes cucumerina* (snake gourd)

To reduce the number of permits required and the associated costs to importers, import permits for specified vegetable seeds will be:

- Issued for all countries of export and
- Valid for 2 years.

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Import permit applications

- Importers may apply early for an import permit from 1 April 2025.
- To apply for an import permit through BICON, use the ‘vegetable seed for sowing’ application form via the relevant BICON case for the seed species you wish to import.
 - Please note that you can apply for multiple species of vegetable seed using this form, subject to fees and charges.

Fees and charges

The minimum assessment fee for one import permit covers up to 6 vegetable seed products.

If you apply for 7 or more vegetable seed products, an additional import permit will need to be issued, and your application will be subject to additional permit assessment charges.

<p>Scenario 1:</p> <p>Applied for one product</p> <p>Outcome: Single permit will be issued, and minimum assessment fee as per application will be charged.</p>	<p>Scenario 2:</p> <p>Applied for 8 products</p> <p>Outcome: Two permits will be issued; an additional assessment fee applies.</p>
<p>Select a Commodity</p> <p>To apply for a permit, please select one or more commodities:</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita maxima)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Butternut pumpkin, Butternut squash seed (Cucurbita moschata)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Melon seed (Cucumis melo)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Zucchini, Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita pepo)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bottle gourd, Calabash seed (Lagenaria siceraria)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Snake gourd seed (Trichosanthes cucumerina)</p> <hr/>	<p>Select a Commodity</p> <p>To apply for a permit, please select one or more commodities:</p> <hr/> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita maxima)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Butternut pumpkin, Butternut squash seed (Cucurbita moschata)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melon seed (Cucumis melo)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zucchini, Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita pepo)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bottle gourd, Calabash seed (Lagenaria siceraria)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snake gourd seed (Trichosanthes cucumerina)</p> <hr/>

Will the validity period of my existing vegetable seed permit be extended?

- No - Existing permits will remain valid for a one-year period.
- The validity period of 2 years applies only to newly issued permits that take effect on or after 1 July 2025.

Transition arrangements

Consignments of seeds that arrive in Australian territory:

- Up until 30 June 2025 will be permitted entry without an import permit
- On or after 1 July 2025 will **not** be permitted entry without a valid import permit, and may be directed for export or disposal.

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How do I apply for a permit?

Step 1: Apply for a vegetable seed permit (e.g. watermelon seed) via the *Citrullus lanatus* seed for sowing BICON Case.

Step 2: Complete application form details for watermelon seed.

Step 3: If you wish to add additional vegetable seeds (e.g. cucumber seed) to the application form, click 'Add another commodity'.

Manage Permit Types Add New Permit Type

Vegetable seed for sowing

Commodity	Status	Actions
Watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus)	Incomplete	Edit Copy Delete

[Add Another Commodity](#)

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Step 4: Select the additional vegetable seeds from the commodity list (e.g. cucumber seed) and add to application.

Select a Commodity

To apply for a permit, please select one or more commodities:

- Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita maxima)
- Butternut pumpkin, Butternut squash seed (Cucurbita moschata)
- Watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus)
- Melon seed (Cucumis melo)
- Zucchini, Pumpkin, Squash seed (Cucurbita pepo)
- Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus)
- Bottle gourd, Calabash seed (Lagenaria siceraria)
- Snake gourd seed (Trichosanthes cucumerina)

[View Application Form](#)

Step 5: Complete form details for additional commodities by clicking 'edit'.

Manage Permit Types Add New Permit Type

Vegetable seed for sowing

Commodity	Status	Actions
Watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus)	Complete	Edit Copy Delete
Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus)	Incomplete	Edit Copy Delete

[Add Another Commodity](#)

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Commodity Details - Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus)

Application ID	Applicant
Application type	Importer
Status	Importer contact
Created	01/01/0001

Permit type Vegetable seed for sowing
Commodity Cucumber seed (Cucumis sativus) ● Incomplete

Acknowledgements
● Complete ▼

Current permit details
● Complete ▼

Proposed permit commencement
● Complete ▼

Export details
● Complete ▼

Product/commodity details
● Incomplete ▼

Other details
● Incomplete ▼

Cancel

Save
Save and continue editing

Save and Return
Save and return to Manage Permit Types

Step 6: Submit application with payment as usual.

More information

Please contact Plant Import Operations on 1800 900 090 or email imports@aff.gov.au (with the subject line of the email 'Plant T2 - Seed for sowing').

For further guidance on import permit applications, visit:

- [Guidance on how to apply for an import permit](#)
- [Fees and charges for import permits.](#)

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia’s agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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