March 2021

Improving agricultural export legislation

# Plant rules – authorised officers – changes to bulk vessel inspections

## Key points

* The new *Export Control Act 2020* and associated Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Rules 2021 (plant rules) commence on 28 March 2021.
* Inspection and approval of bulk vessels is covered in Part 5 of Chapter 9 of the plant rules.
* You must continue to follow instructional material available on the Plant Export Operations Manual ([PEOM](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual)) when performing your functions.

## Instructional material updates

Bulk vessel inspection instructional material has been updated for the commencement of the new export legislation.

The PE103 Bulk Vessel Approval Record will be known as the ‘Bulk Vessel Inspection Record’. The form has had minor updates to align with the new export legislation.

Other minor changes have been made to instructional material to reflect:

* the language in the new legislation
* legislative references
* new Plant Export Management System ([PEMS](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plant-exports-management-system-information)) functionality for suspending, lifting suspension and revoking bulk vessel approvals.

## New PEMS functionality for suspending, lifting suspension and revoking

New functionality has been built into PEMS. If the condition of a bulk vessel has changed since it was approved, you can:

* suspend a bulk vessel approval
* lift a suspension of a bulk vessel approval
* revoke a bulk vessel approval.

The new functionality reflects the existing legislative powers of a BVI3001 authorised officer.

The powers must continue to be exercised in accordance with bulk vessel inspection instructional material.

For more information on how to use these functions in PEMS see PEMS Authorised Officer User guide – Bulk vessel inspections and bulk vessel inspection instructional material on the PEOM.

## Marine surveyors

When the opportunity arises, please make marine surveyors aware of the following:

* Marine surveyor certificate templates should be updated to make reference to the new plant export legislation.
* Marine surveyor’s certificates must be issued under and in accordance with subsection 11-16(2) of the plant rules.
* Marine surveyors must be qualified as per subsection 11-16(1) of the plant rules.

## Further information

Email [plantexportreform@awe.gov.au](mailto:plantexportreform@awe.gov.au)

Web [awe.gov.au/new-plant-export-legislation](http://www.awe.gov.au/new-plant-export-legislation)

[Plant Export Operations Manual](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/plants-plant-products/plantexportsmanual)

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