

Horticulture Export Industry Consultative Committee – Meeting Update

Updates on key projects and issues are summarised following each committee meeting.

Meeting 23 held on 8 July 2020 - Summary

The committee met on 8 July 2020 via teleconference and received operational updates from the department on the Horticulture Export Program and Authorised Officer program, the Business Systems Program, the Horticulture Exports Cost Recovery Arrangements and market access activities.

Regional Assurance Managers

The Regional Assurance Managers has expanded to throughout all states and territories in Australia, with three of these positions commencing on 1 July 2020.

Business Systems Program

The Plant Export management Systems (PEMS) is to be upgraded in August 2020 to include on-shore cold treatments, web-services for horticultural inspections and calibrations to pull inspection information from third party vendor systems into PEMS and compatibility with mobile phones.

The use of PEMS is to be mandated from 1 October 2020. Any request for authorisation that is received in any other format after this date will be rejected unless one of a defined exceptional circumstance applies. Further details will be made available on the department website.

Agricultural export legislation

Public consultation on the consultation draft Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Rules 2020 commenced on 18 May 2020 and closed on 26 June 2020. There will be a further opportunity to comment on the draft plant rules before they are finalised and come into effect.

Cost recovery of exports certification

Consultation on the draft Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) for plant related commodities was extended until 31 January 2020. A summary of the feedback received is to be published on the department website.

Next Export Documentation System (NEXDC)

The delivery of the horticulture and plant commodities into NEXDOC is currently scheduled for commencement in mid-2021 and is anticipated to take about 12 months to complete.

For additional information on the above summary please contact your industry HEICC representative.