# Import risk analysis for country/commodity assessment

An import risk analysis (IRA) is undertaken when the criteria for a Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis (BIRA) are not met.

IRAs may include:

• scientific reviews of existing policy or import conditions

• reviews of biosecurity measures in light of new scientific information.

The process is as follows:

1. Import market access request received.

2. Announcement of commencement of risk analysis. Stakeholders are notified.

3. Preparation of draft report.

4. The draft report is published. Stakeholders are notified and consulted. Public consultation period is open for 60 calendar days. All stakeholders, including the exporting country, are encouraged to comment.

5. Consideration of all comments.

6. Preparation of final report.

7. The final report is published. Stakeholders are notified.

8. Import conditions are published on the Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON). Stakeholders are notified.

9. Trade can commence (may include import permit).

Note:

• If required, an in-country visit/s is conducted between steps 2 and 7.

• The timeframe of the risk analysis process varies depending on the complexity of the assessment.

Additional information on the process is below.

1. DAWE announces commencement of the risk analysis. An announcement information paper and Biosecurity Advice are published on the department’s website. Stakeholders are notified.

2. DAWE commences the analysis of biosecurity risks by identifying and assessing pests that are of concern to Australia. Information provided in the market access request is used and additional information may be sought from the exporting country to inform the analysis. If required, DAWE will visit the exporting country to view production practices.

3. DAWE publishes the draft report and a Biosecurity Advice on the department’s website. The draft report is released for consultation (usually for 60 days). All stakeholders, including the exporting country, can comment on the draft report.

4. After the consultation period, DAWE considers all comments in the preparation of the final report.

5. DAWE prepares the final report.

6. DAWE publishes the final report and biosecurity advice on the department’s website. Stakeholders are notified.

7. DAWE develops operational arrangements with the exporting country. This includes verification by DAWE that the exporting country can implement the measures. The exporting country may be required to provide supporting documentation.

8. After the operational arrangements are developed, DAWE publishes import conditions on our Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON) and issues a BICON notice.

9. Trade can commence. Import permit may be required.