

# Methyl bromide fumigation of high-risk plant products: packaging requirements

## Overview

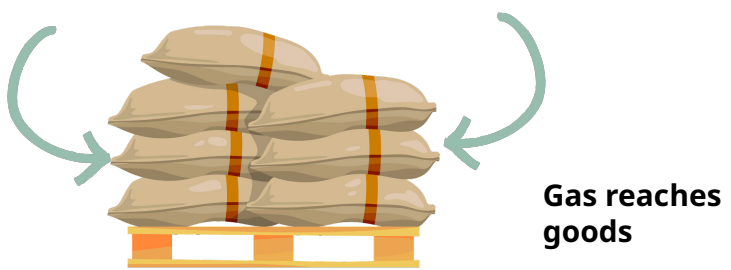

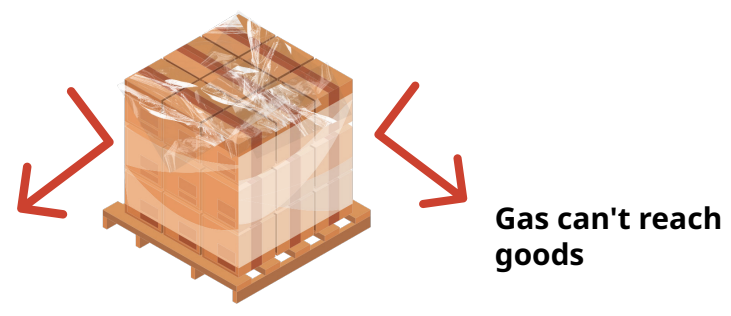



This document applies to methyl bromide fumigations of high-risk plant products from khapra beetle target risk countries for export to Australia. It details the packaging requirements for these treatments, including examples of compliant and non-compliant scenarios.


## Import conditions and scenarios

Certain types of packaging are impermeable to gas (gas-proof), which can prevent the fumigant from reaching the goods. Impermeable packaging and wrappings that impede methyl bromide distribution or penetration into the target of fumigation must be removed, opened, slashed or made pervious prior to fumigation. To ensure the fumigation is effective, high-risk plant products must be fumigated using one of the options outlined below.



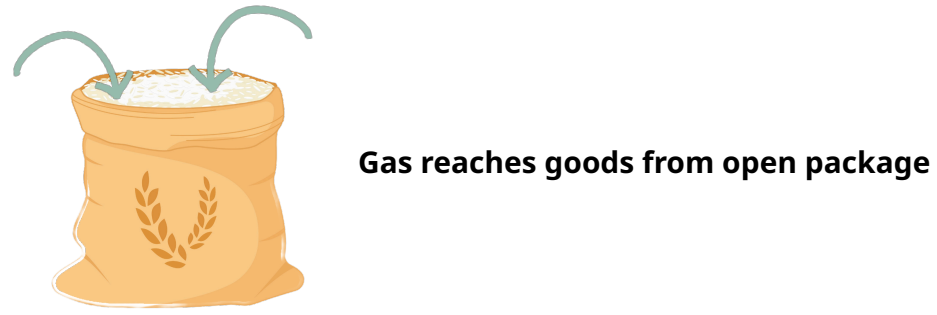

### Option 1: Fumigated in gas permeable packaging


All layers of packaging must be permeable. Permeable packaging is packaging that allows gases to pass through freely. Examples of compliant and non-compliant scenarios under these options are detailed below.

Scenario		Compliance status
Products are fumigated in gas permeable packaging with <b>no shrink wrapping</b> around them.	 Gas reaches goods	 <b>Compliant</b>
Products are fumigated in gas permeable packaging but with <b>shrink wrapping</b> around them.	 Gas can't reach goods	 <b>Not compliant</b>
Fumigated in <b>impermeable packaging</b> .	 Gas can't reach goods	 <b>Not compliant</b>

-  Suitable fumigation locations:
- Products in storage at a supplier or producer's premises
  - Products packed into a shipping container

### Option 2: Fumigated prior to being sealed in impermeable packaging

Scenario		Compliance status
<b>Fumigated in bulk</b> (e.g. in a pile, storage bins or hessian bags). The fumigated products are then packed and sealed in new packaging for export.	 Gas reaches goods and then packed	 <b>Compliant</b>
Fumigated in impermeable packaging but <b>left open and unsealed</b> . The fumigated products are then sealed for export.	 Gas reaches goods from open package	 <b>Compliant</b>

-  Suitable fumigation locations: supplier or producer's premises

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## Examples:

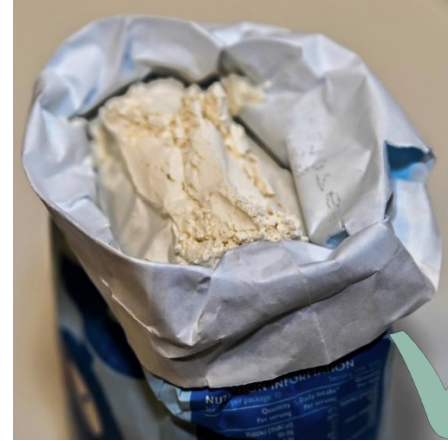
### Gas permeable packaging:



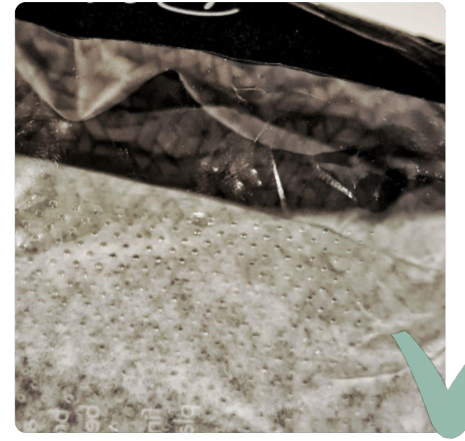
**Dry cloth** that is porous enough to allow the fumigant to pass through freely



**Woven fabrics** and plastics that are not lined, coated or laminated with impermeable materials



**Paper and cardboard** that is not waxed, lined, laminated or painted



**Perforated plastics or cellophane** that meet perforation requirements of the [Methodology](#)\*

### Gas impermeable packaging:



**Sealed solid plastic or cellophane bags or pouches** (including those with insufficient perforations)



**Sealed pouches, tins and cans**



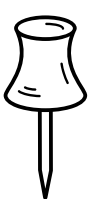
Paper, cardboard and woven fabrics **that are waxed, lined, laminated, or painted** with impermeable materials



**Sealed glass jars and bottles**

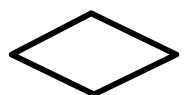
## Perforation requirements:

Perforations are small holes or openings in the packaging that allow gas to pass through.



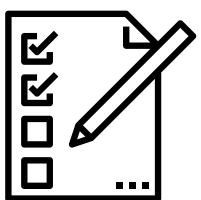
### Perforated impermeable packaging must have:

- 4 or more holes of 6 mm diameter; or
- 5 or more holes of 5 mm diameter per 100 mm x 100 mm of surface area; or
- 6 or more pinholes per 10 mm x 10 mm of surface area.



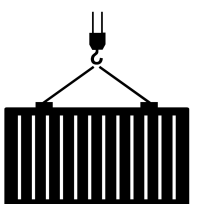
The **wrapping** must be in a **single layer**, so the perforations are not blocked by the wrapping overlapping itself.

## Other requirements:



Fumigations must meet:

- Australia's [import conditions](#)
- [Methyl bromide fumigation treatment requirements](#)
- [Guide to packaging suitability for performing QPS treatments](#)
- All requirements of the [Methodology](#)\*



In addition to treating the plant products, Full Container Load/Full Container Consolidated (FCL/FCX) **containers must also be treated**. The container must either be treated:

- Empty
- When packed, only if using methyl bromide fumigation and compliant with [all requirements](#).



- The goods must be **exported or sealed** within the container **within 21 days of treatment**.
- Ensure product security to prevent cross-contamination after fumigation.