Ed just submitted the survey Passionfruit from Vietnam with the responses below.

Name:

Eddy Dunn

Role:

Agronomist

Organisation name (if applicable):

Total Grower Services

How would you like to provide your response?

write a longer response to the draft report

Use this text field to submit your longer response.

Passionfruit are a broad category with significant genetic variation. The risk assessment relies upon the fruit having a hard skin to give the minimal risk outcome for some of the pests which are in Vietnam but not in Australia. There are passionfruit varieties with soft skin, and it should either be stipulated that only varieties with hard skin can be imported into Australia, or the risk assessment should be re-evaluated for soft skinned varieties of passionfruit. The population in Australia is predominantly on the eastern seaboard, which is also where passionfruit are grown commercially, but also this is where they are likely to be growing in backyards or as weeds along roadsides and in common areas. As the passionfruit from Vietnam are likely to be brought to the eastern seaboard, the risk of an exotic pest establishing once it arrives is very high. This factor should be taken into account in the risk assessments. A lot of effort was spent eradicating oriental fruit fly from Australia some years ago. The treatment protocol for oriental fruit fly, melon fly, solanum fly and pumpkin fly must be 100% effective on fruit fly larvae inside fruit. Queensland fruit fly larvae can be present inside fruit with very little on the outside of the fruit to indicate that they are there. I have not worked with the exotic flies, but their life cycles are similar. Pests such as mango mealybug and West Indian Red Scale are likely to impact crops other than passionfruit if they establish in Australia. The mango industry and the citrus industry are significant, and this risk must be accounted for in the assessment. In a similar manner, if exotic orthotospoviruses enter Australia in scirtothrips, the impact is likely to be on other crops rather than passionfruit. Aphids carrying potyvirus on the other hand are likely to impact passionfruit as well as other crops. There is a native leafminer in Australia which causes severe damage to the skin of young fruit, but only if the

natural enemies are somehow impacted. I am concerned that the exotic leafminer may cause severe damage in Australia if the natural enemies are not present to keep the population in check. The protocol for treatment of Pacific mealybug and mulberry scale must be robust if fruit is to be imported into Western Australia, as juvenile stages of these pests can easily hide either at the stalk end of the fruit, or in very small imperfections in the surface of the skin.

Is your response confidential?

No

Do you agree to your response being made publicly available?

Yes

Do you agree to your name and state/territory being listed?

Yes

Do you agree to the department contacting you about your submission if required?

Yes

I have read and understood the privacy notice and consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information as outlined in the privacy notice.

Yes

Confirm that you have read and understand this declaration.

Yes
