

99/1406

Dear Stakeholder

DRAFT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS - MAIZE FROM THE USA

In our letter of 19 March 1999, stakeholders were invited to comment on the draft Import Risk Analysis (IRA) paper on bulk maize (*Zea mays* L.) from the USA.

A number of stakeholders have requested an extension of the consultation period that formally closed on 18 May 1999. The reason for the request was that the technical working group reports were not available at the time the draft IRA paper was released.

I regret that the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) import risk analysis process, as documented in the [AQIS Import Risk Analysis Process Handbook](#), does not provide for extensions to the formal consultation stages. However, it will take AQIS some time to consider stakeholder comments when finalising the IRA paper and we will make all reasonable effort to consider comments received after the closing date. It is unlikely that the IRA will be finalised before July 1999.

Any stakeholder wishing to comment, or provide additional comments to those already provided, should forward these to the [IRA Secretariat](#) at the earliest opportunity. Comments should be sent to the following address:

Import Risk Analysis Secretariat
Plant Quarantine Policy Branch
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6272 5094
Fax: (02) 6272 3307
Email: plantquar@aqis.gov.au

Subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received with respect to the review will be publicly available and be listed or referred to in papers or reports prepared in the review. If a request for anonymity does not accompany a submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of the *Privacy Act*. The contents of a submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act*.

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list for this IRA, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to the IRA Secretariat at the above address. Information on all IRAs that the Plant Quarantine Policy Branch is currently conducting is available on the AQIS website.

Yours sincerely

Bill Magee
Acting Assistant Director
Plant Quarantine Policy Branch

26 May 1999