



Department of
**AGRICULTURE
FISHERIES &
FORESTRY -
AUSTRALIA**



8 March 2002

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/09

IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: RUMINANT SEMEN FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CONFIRMATION OF SCOPE, TIMETABLE AND APPROACH

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides confirmation on the scope, indicative timetable and approach for the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) of ruminant semen from the Republic of South Africa (RSA). An appeal opportunity is provided and appeals should be received by 11 April 2002.

ABPM 2001/35 proposed the scope, indicative timetable and approach for the IRA. The IRA will cover frozen semen from bovines, ovines and caprines from RSA and subject to no unforeseen difficulties will take approximately 18 months. We also proposed a team of veterinary officers from within Animal Biosecurity should conduct the IRA – the team has experience in a range of relevant diseases (including FMD in Africa and insect-borne diseases), epidemiology and risk analysis, and has developed relevant expertise through similar analyses on the risk of importing ruminant semen and embryos from a number of other countries.

Three stakeholders responded to ABPM 2001/35. They all supported the decision to proceed with the IRA. One stakeholder raised a technical issue regarding the possibility of product substitution, which will be addressed in the IRA.

Following consideration of ABPM 2001/35 and the stakeholder comments, the Executive Manager of Biosecurity Australia has confirmed the scope, indicative timetable and approach as set out above.

Next Steps

As previously advised, the review of the IRA process is well advanced. One of the main equity issues that has arisen from the review is the need to extend the opportunity for stakeholders to appeal at an early stage in all IRAs. The current draft of the IRA process, circulated in November 2001, allows for stakeholders to appeal the Executive Manager's determination on the scope, indicative timetable and approach, including the IRA team. In light of the general acceptance of this appeal step, we are providing stakeholders the opportunity to appeal the Executive Manager's determination on these matters for this IRA. Stakeholders must give reasons for their appeal. Appeals should be sent to the following address by close of business Thursday 11 April 2002.

Edmund Barton Building
Barton ACT
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
ph +61 2 6272 3933
fax +61 2 6272 5161
www.affa.gov.au

ABN 24 113 085 695

IRA appeals
Deputy Secretary
AFFA
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

The Deputy Secretary will take into account the following matters in making a determination on any appeal:

- . whether the scope of the IRA is reasonable (with regard to the proposal or application, and any current related work) and is an efficient use of public resources;
- . whether the timetable will allow adequate opportunity for stakeholder input;
- . whether the nominated IRA team membership will provide appropriate expertise to consider all relevant scientific issues; and
- . any other matter that the Deputy Secretary may think is relevant.

Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent, unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the 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.

DAVID BANKS
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Animal Biosecurity

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