



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

24 March 2004

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2004/08

**FURTHER EXTENSION FOR THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE REVISED DRAFT
IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR APPLES FROM NEW ZEALAND**

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to notify stakeholders of a further 30-day extension to the comment period for the revised draft import risk analysis (IRA) report for apples from New Zealand. Comment will now be accepted until close of business on 23 June 2004.

Biosecurity Australia has extended the period for comments on the revised draft import risk analysis (IRA) report for apples from New Zealand until Wednesday 23 June 2004.

The second extension has been granted following consideration of additional requests from stakeholders and ongoing concerns that the apple industry is in the middle of its annual harvest and would find it difficult to meet the earlier deadline. Granting an extension at this time will ensure that all stakeholders are given the opportunity to contribute to the revised draft IRA for apples from New Zealand.

Stakeholders have requested that Biosecurity Australia representatives visit major apple growing regions to enable face-to-face discussions about the findings and recommendations presented the revised draft IRA report. Biosecurity Australia will develop a program of visits, in consultation with industry leaders. Stakeholders will be advised of the arrangements by PBPM when they are finalised.

Comments on the revised draft IRA report should be received by Technical and Administrative Services at the following address:

Technical and Administrative Services
Plant Biosecurity
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6272 5094
Facsimile: (02) 6272 3307
E-mail: plantbiosec@daff.gov.au

The revised draft IRA report is available from the Departmental website at www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity or copies can be requested in either hard copy or CD ROM format from Technical and Administrative Services at the above address.

Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Plant 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 1988*.

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 1982*.

Consultation

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to Technical and Administrative Services.

Information on all IRAs and policy reviews being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the Internet at www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity.

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