



8 June 2004

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2004/18

FINAL IMPORT POLICY FOR PERSIMMON FRUIT FROM JAPAN, KOREA AND ISRAEL

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum notifies stakeholders of the final import conditions for persimmon fruit from Japan, Korea and Israel.

Biosecurity Australia has completed the final import policy for fresh persimmon (*Diospyros kaki* L.) fruit from Japan, Korea and Israel. This extension of existing policy is based on import policy for persimmon fruit from New Zealand and the USA.

Fresh persimmon fruit for human consumption is permitted into Australia from Japan, Korea and Israel subject to the application of phytosanitary measures. These phytosanitary measures are outlined in the attached executive summary (Attachment 1) from the final import policy document.

The details of the import conditions for persimmons from Japan, Korea and Israel will be listed on the AQIS ICON database at www.aqis.gov.au/icon.

The final import policy document is available from the Departmental website at www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity or copies can be requested from Technical and Administrative Services at the following address:

Technical and Administrative Services
Plant Biosecurity
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
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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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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY- PERSIMMON FINAL IMPORT POLICY

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has considered the importation of fresh persimmon fruit from Japan, The Republic of Korea (herein after referred to as Korea) and Israel. In 2002, Biosecurity Australia officially advised stakeholders of the commencement of the generic Import Risk Analysis (IRA) on the importation of persimmons. In 2003, Biosecurity Australia conducted a preliminary risk assessment and determined that the potential quarantine pests associated with persimmons in Japan, Korea and Israel were not significantly different to those for which policy already exists. Therefore, Biosecurity Australia advised stakeholders of the cessation of the IRA and assessment of the import access request as an extension of existing policy. Biosecurity Australia has existing policy for the importation of fresh persimmons from the USA (California, Arizona and Texas only) and New Zealand. Biosecurity Australia circulated the Draft Import Policy Report in December 2003.

This document presents final import policy for fresh persimmon fruit imports into Australia from Japan, Korea and Israel.

Of the pests associated with fresh persimmon fruit in Japan, Korea and Israel, 26 pests (24 arthropods and two pathogens) were determined to be quarantine pests for Australia.

Of these pests, 20 arthropods and one pathogen were assessed to have unrestricted risk estimates above Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP) and risk management measures have been developed.

This import policy concludes that the risks associated with the importation of fresh persimmons from Japan, Korea and Israel can be managed by applying a combination of risk management measures and operational maintenance systems, specifically:

- registration of export orchards and packinghouses;
- option of pest free areas or cold disinfestation for the management of *Ceratitidis capitata* (Mediterranean fruit fly) for persimmons from Israel;
- option of:
 - pest free area/pest free places of production, or
 - orchard control, visual inspection and remedial action, or
 - methyl bromide fumigation for the management of *Stathmopoda masinissa* (persimmon fruit moth) for persimmons from Korea and Japan;
- export orchard surveillance and sanitation for freedom from *Monilinia fructigena* (brown rot) for persimmons from Japan, Korea and Israel;
- cleaning for the removal of mealybugs;
- targeted pre-export inspection by the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO);
- packing, labelling and storage procedures;
- phytosanitary certification by NPPO; and
- targeted on-arrival quarantine inspection and clearance by AQIS.