



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2 July 2004

## PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2004/21

### DRAFT REVISED IMPORT POLICY FOR FRESH MANGO FRUIT FROM INDIA

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to notify stakeholders of the release of the draft revised import policy document for fresh mango fruit from India, considered as a review under extension of existing policy.

PBPM 2003/27 of 12 September 2003 notified stakeholders that Plant Biosecurity had received a request from India to resume trade in the importation of mangoes from India to Australia.

The *Draft revised import policy for mangoes from India* has now been developed. The executive summary and proposed phytosanitary measures for the entry of fresh mango fruit for human consumption into Australia from India are attached.

The draft revised import policy document is available from the Departmental website at [www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity](http://www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity) or copies can be requested from Technical and Administrative Services.

Comments on the draft revised import policy should be submitted by 2 August 2004 to the following address:

Technical and Administrative Services  
Plant Biosecurity  
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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](http://www.daff.gov.au/plantbiosecurity).

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) is considering the importation of fresh mango fruit from India following a request from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) of India in 2000. On 12 September 2003, Biosecurity Australia officially advised stakeholders that India's import access request would be considered as an extension of existing policy.

Prior to 1996, India regularly exported fresh mango fruit to Australia with a mandatory on-arrival fumigation treatment with ethylene dibromide (EDB) effective against certain insect pests including fruit flies. Imports of mangoes from India were suspended in 1996 as a result of the global phase-out in use of EDB on the basis of worker health and safety concerns. Following the EDB phase-out, India was requested to propose equivalent measures and provide appropriate efficacy data, which they subsequently provided.

Fresh mangoes are currently imported from Mexico and the Philippines (Guimaras Island) based on existing quarantine policy developed by Biosecurity Australia. Biosecurity Australia has considered the importation of fresh mango fruit from India under existing policy for the importation of fresh mangoes from Mexico and the Philippines (Guimaras Island).

This document presents a draft revised import policy for fresh mango fruit imports into Australia from India.

Of the pests associated with fresh mango fruit in India, 32 pests (31 arthropods and one pathogen) were determined to be quarantine pests for Australia.

Of these pests, 26 arthropods were assessed to have an unrestricted risk estimate above Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP) and risk management measures have been proposed to mitigate the risk.

This draft revised import policy proposes that the risks associated with the importation of fresh mango fruit from India can be reduced to a level acceptable to Australia, based on Australia's ALOP by applying a combination of risk management measures and operational maintenance systems, specifically:

- Option of vapour heat treatment (VHT) or hot water treatment (HWT) for the management of fruit fly species;
- Designated pest free places of production or production sites for the management of *Sternochetus frigidus* (mango pulp weevil) and *S. mangiferae* (mango seed weevil) (initially for the areas of Barabanki, Malihabad, Saharanpur in the Lucknow region, in the State of Uttar Pradesh, the areas of Navsari and Valsad in the State of Gujarat and the areas of Devgad, Kudal, Malvan, Sawantwadi and Vengurla in the State of Maharashtra);
- Inspection and remedial action for other identified quarantine pests such as red-banded

mango caterpillar, mealybugs and scale insects; and

- Supporting operational systems to maintain and verify phytosanitary status.

Biosecurity Australia invites comments on the technical and economic feasibility of the proposed risk management measures, in particular, comments are welcome on the appropriateness of the measures and any alternative measures that stakeholders consider to be equivalent in achieving the identified objectives.