



30 August 2017

## **BIOSECURITY ADVICE 2017/19**

### **FRESH (CHILLED OR FROZEN) BEEF AND BEEF PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN, THE NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, THE UNITED STATES AND VANUATU – FINAL REVIEW**

This Biosecurity Advice informs stakeholders that the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has finalised a biosecurity risk review for the importation of fresh (chilled or frozen) beef and beef products from Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United States and Vanuatu. Importation of fresh beef and beef products from these countries will be permitted subject to Australian biosecurity legislation, favourable competent authority assessments, the application of sanitary measures specified in the *Fresh (chilled or frozen) beef and beef products from Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United States and Vanuatu – final review*, and negotiation of agreed bilateral health certificates for this trade.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has completed a review of biosecurity risks for importing fresh (chilled or frozen) beef and beef products for human consumption from Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United States and Vanuatu following stakeholder consultation on a draft review released on 14 December 2016 (BA 2016/36). Stakeholders requested an extension of the closing date for comments from 13 February 2017. BA 2017/01 extended the date to 15 March 2017. The final review is available on the department's website at: [agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/animal/fresh-chilled-frozen-beef](http://agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/animal/fresh-chilled-frozen-beef).

The department received submissions from the governments of Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United States, and representative organisations of the Australian beef industry, including the Cattle Council of Australia, the Red Meat Advisory Council, the Australian Lot Feeders' Association and the Australian Meat Industry Council. Submissions related to food safety, biosecurity (human and animal), traceability and other technical issues. These comments have assisted with improving the technical accuracy of the review. However, these improvements did not substantially change the conclusions in the draft review.

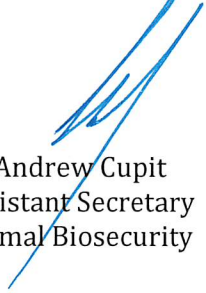
The department evaluated all stakeholder submissions and comments and updated the draft policy review accordingly. The department also consulted extensively with the Department of Health and Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) on food safety and human health risks associated with the importation of fresh beef and beef products for human consumption from the applicant countries.

Several stakeholders commented on *Salmonella enterica* serotype Typhimurium DT104 (DT104). The assessment of the human biosecurity risk posed by DT104 in contaminated fresh beef and beef products imported from the applicant countries was finalised after publishing the draft review. The final review took into account advice from the Department of Health that Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP) is achieved with respect to this pathogen when produced in accordance with or equivalent to relevant Australian standards (e.g. the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code and the Australian Standard for the hygienic production and transportation of meat and meat products for human consumption AS4696:2007). Instead of pre-export testing programs for DT104 and/or other multi-resistant bacteria, the department will require listed establishments in each country to operate Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) based Quality Assurance plans in accordance with or equivalent to relevant Australian standards. The department will also require that the satisfactory operation of these plans is verified on an ongoing basis by a bacteriological testing

this situation. The current import conditions for fresh beef and beef products from New Zealand and Vanuatu will apply until further notification by the department.

Japan, the Netherlands and the United States were included in the review because they have been assessed by FSANZ as having an acceptable BSE food safety risk status, and had applied to the department for import access for fresh beef and beef products for human consumption.

New Zealand and Vanuatu are included in the review as both are FSANZ assessed countries and have long standing access for fresh beef. The appropriateness of the conditions under which importation occurs has not been reviewed for some time, and as such a review was warranted.



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