

→ *David B.*  
→ *Kevin Garsdale*

Office of the Director-General



Queensland  
Government

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5 SEP 2008

Department of  
Primary Industries and Fisheries

Ms Louise van Meurs  
General Manager  
Plant Biosecurity  
Biosecurity Australia  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601

RECEIVED

05 SEP 2008

Plant Biosecurity  
Biosecurity Australia

Dear Ms van Meurs

**Biosecurity Australia Advice 2008/20 - Issues paper for the import risk analysis for fresh apple fruit from the United States of America**

I refer to the *Issues paper for the import risk analysis for fresh apple fruit from the United States of America* and your request for comments by 5 September 2008.

The issues paper provides information relevant to the import request and the import risk analysis and includes a list of pests associated with apple production in the United States of America.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) has reviewed the issues paper and notes that Biosecurity Australia has identified fire blight, caused by the bacterium *Erwinia amylovora*, as a significant disease affecting apple fruit, particularly as Australia is free of fire blight. This is a major concern for the Queensland pome fruits industry and, although the DPI&F has no further comment at this stage, it is committed to active involvement in this extended import risk analysis process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the issues paper.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Fiona Giblin on telephone 07 3239 3472 or email [fiona.giblin@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:fiona.giblin@dpi.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

  
Robert Setter  
Director-General (Acting)

Mission Vision

Profitable primary  
industries for Queensland

Maximise the economic  
potential of Queensland  
primary industries on a  
sustainable basis

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