

Office of the Director-General



Queensland  
Government

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Department of  
Primary Industries and Fisheries

5 SEP 2008

Ms Louise van Meurs  
General Manager  
Plant Biosecurity  
Biosecurity Australia  
GPO Box 858  
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RECEIVED

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Plant Biosecurity  
Biosecurity Australia

Dear Ms van Meurs

**Biosecurity Australia Advice 2008/21 - Issues paper for the import risk analysis for fresh apple fruit from the People's Republic of China**

I refer to the *Issues paper for the import risk analysis for fresh apple fruit from the People's Republic of China* 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 China.

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 fruit industry and, although the DPI&F has no further comment at this stage, it is committed to active involvement in this extended IRA 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Setter'.

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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