

Appendix B Issues raised in stakeholder comments

A summary of key stakeholder comments and how they were considered in the final report is given below.

Comment 1: One stakeholder raised concerns over the methodology used in the pest categorisation process that led to several organisms not requiring a pest risk assessment.

Response: The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has conducted the pest categorisation process in accordance with ISPM 11 (FAO 2013). The evidence considered does not support a pathway association for all pests considered. For some of the pests, for example for pathogens which are seed transmitted in table grapes and have no other means of establishment, the evidence considered (including full assessments for similar pathogens that are seed transmitted) does not support a potential for the pests to establish and spread. The department considers that the available evidence does not justify a full pest risk assessment for these organisms.

*Comment 2: One stakeholder considered that two of the pests for which a pest risk assessment was conducted, that is *Guignardia bidwellii* and *Phakopsora euvtis*, are not present in Mexico.*

Response: The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources re-examined the available evidence relating to the presence of *Guignardia bidwellii* and *Phakopsora euvtis* in Mexico. For *Guignardia bidwellii*, additional references supporting its presence in Sonora were found and added in Appendix A. As the stakeholder could not provide any evidence to support that the reporting of *G. bidwellii* in the references cited in the report was erroneous, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources maintains the status of this pest in the final report.

For *P. euvtis*, no conclusive evidence could be found to support that this pest is present in Mexico and the status of this pest in Appendix A was changed to 'not present in Mexico'. However, if new information becomes available to support that *P. euvtis* is present in Mexico, the assessment of this pest for table grapes from Sonora will be reviewed.

Comment 3: One stakeholder raised concerns over the option of a systems approach as a proposed risk management measure for spiders.

Response: The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources considers that the proposed systems approach based on vineyard and packing management and visual inspection would reduce the risk posed by the spiders *Cheiracanthium inclusum* (yellow sac spider) and *Latrodectus hesperus* (black widow spider) to an acceptable level.

The proposed systems approach for these spiders includes that fruit must be packed in the packing house, not in the field, and be inspected for spiders. A similar systems approach is approved for similar pests for table grapes from China (Biosecurity Australia 2011a).

In addition, the systems approach can be reviewed at any time, if these spiders are intercepted.