



# Biosecurity Fact Sheet

## Fresh decrowned pineapple fruit (*Ananas comosus*) from Taiwan

August 2017



### Key Points

- On 23 August 2017, the department announced the commencement of a review of the biosecurity import requirements for fresh decrowned pineapple fruit (decrowned pineapple) from Taiwan.
- A draft report will be prepared to provide stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the risk analysis. The release of the draft report is proposed for early 2018.
- The final report will be published after consideration of comments on the draft report.

### Rationale for the review

Australia currently permits imports of fresh decrowned pineapple from Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Solomon Islands provided they meet Australia's biosecurity requirements.

The department has commenced a review of the biosecurity import requirements for fresh decrowned pineapple from Taiwan to Australia in response to a formal request for market access from Taiwan.

The pests associated with decrowned pineapple from Taiwan that are identified as potentially being of quarantine concern are the same or of the same pest group as decrowned pineapple from Malaysia or other horticultural commodities, for which import conditions exist.

Given the similarity of pests of concern and that there are appropriate risk management measures for these pests, this risk analysis will be conducted as a review of biosecurity import requirements (a non-regulated risk analysis).

This review will focus on ensuring that any decrowned pineapples exported from Taiwan to Australia are free from unwanted pests and diseases.

### Pineapple production in Taiwan

Pineapples are produced in the central and southern regions of Taiwan where a subtropical or tropical climate predominates. Thirty eight per cent of pineapples are produced in Pingtung, followed by 21 per cent in Nantou and 14 per cent each in Chiayi and Kaoshiung, with the remaining 13 per cent produced in Taiwan. The total pineapple production for Taiwan in 2013 was approximately 385,000 tonnes.

In Taiwan, pineapples are cultivated over a period of three years, during which they are harvested twice. Planting dates range from around September to November every year and the fruit can be produced year-round through adjustment of the planting varieties, areas and technologies. The main production and export season ranges from February through to September.

Taiwan currently exports pineapples to China, Japan, Korea, Canada, Singapore and Hong Kong. In 2015 Taiwan exported approximately 10,000 tonnes of pineapples.

## Preliminary assessment of pests

A preliminary assessment has identified that the pests potentially associated with fresh decrowned pineapples from Taiwan do not pose different biosecurity risks to those associated with fresh decrowned pineapple from Malaysia or other horticultural commodities. The [final import risk analysis report for the importation of fresh decrowned pineapple fruit from Malaysia](#) was published on 14 December 2012.

Of all the pests found to be associated with decrowned pineapple from Taiwan, 14 pests were identified as requiring further assessment and include mealybugs, armoured scales, thrips and a *Phytophthora* species.

The quarantine pests associated with fresh decrowned pineapple from Taiwan (as assessed to date) will not require different risk management measures to those for fresh decrowned pineapples from Malaysia to achieve Australia's Appropriate Level of Protection <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/conducting/appropriate-level-of-protection>.

## Next steps

Stakeholders will be invited to comment on the draft report during the 60 calendar day consultation period in early 2018. The final report will then be published after consideration of stakeholder comments. This completes the scientific analysis process.

If the final risk analysis recommends the importation of fresh decrowned pineapple from Taiwan, there will be a number of steps required before imports could commence as shown in the following diagram. Any importation of fresh decrowned pineapple would then be a commercial decision between an importer in Australia and an exporter in Taiwan who can meet the import conditions.

An overview of the non-regulated risk analysis process for pineapple is illustrated in Figure 1.

Further information on the review can be found <http://agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/plant/pineapples-from-taiwan>.

Register your interest in import risk analyses to receive regular updates via the department's website at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/stakeholder>.



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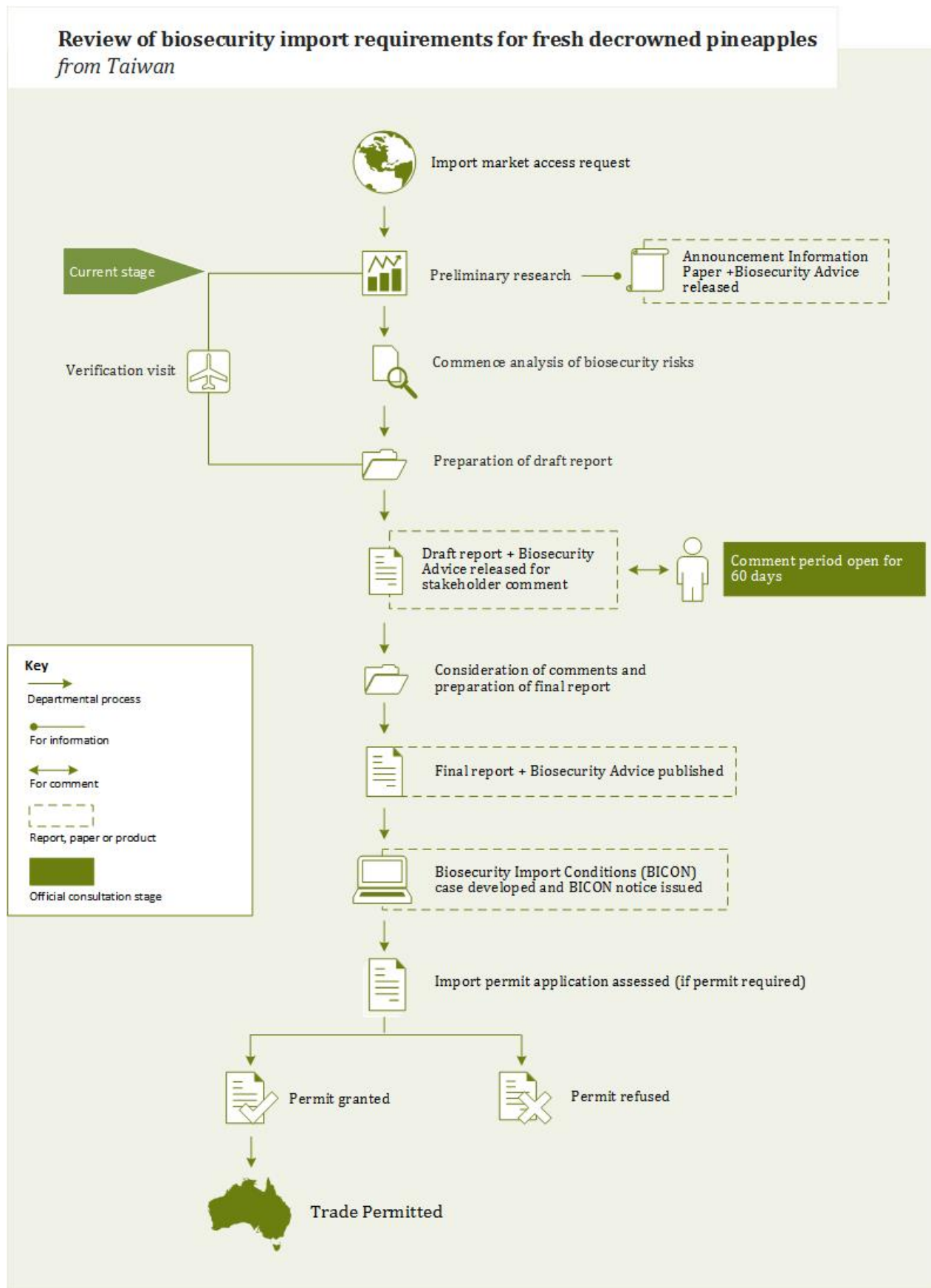


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Figure 1: Overview of the non-regulated risk analysis process for pineapple



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