

Biosecurity protection levy

To help meet the cost of sustainably funding the biosecurity system, a new biosecurity protection levy on all domestic agricultural, fisheries and forestry producers will commence on 1 July 2024. This levy will collect an amount equivalent to 10 per cent of 2020-21 levy rates or another comparable metric where such levies are not in place.

What does this mean for producers?

Based on levy rates as at 1 July 2020:

- A **cattle (grass fed) producer** will pay an extra \$0.5 or **50 cents per head** (cattle and livestock (producers) charge)
- A **cotton producer** will pay an extra \$0.225 or **22.5 cents per 227kg bale** (cotton levy)
- An **egg producer** will pay an extra \$0.0325 or **3.25 cents per chick** (eggs (promotion) levy)
- A **honey producer** will pay an extra \$0.0046 or less than **0.5 cents per kg** (honey levy)
- A **domestic apple producer** will pay an extra \$0.001845 or less than **0.19 cents per kg** (apple levy).
- A **forest grower, for plantation logs – (exotic softwood)** will pay an extra \$0.0105 or **1.05 cents per cubic metre of the log** (forest growers levy)
- A **forest grower, for other logs** will pay an extra \$0.005 or **0.5 cents per cubic metre of the log** (forest growers levy)
- A **prawn farmer** will pay an extra \$0.00665 or less than **0.67c per kg of whole farmed prawns** (farmed prawns levy)



For those producers with commodities not subject to statutory levies, arrangements will be negotiated on a commodity-specific basis.

Feedback from consultation on the development of long-term sustainable funding model for biosecurity was clear – a strong biosecurity system is of national significance and should be funded by risk creators as well as beneficiaries. The biosecurity protection levy will not commence until 1 July 2024 to ensure there is time to plan and negotiate new arrangements.

Why this is important?

We need a biosecurity system that keeps pace with today's needs and prepares for the threats of tomorrow. A strong, smart and sustainably funded system will help us manage growing biosecurity risks and help safeguard Australia's industries, our export trade and our environment.

Efficient biosecurity operations are critical to meet industries' needs, otherwise it slows down trade and supply chains, adding cost to industry and consumers.

A strengthened biosecurity system not only secures better economic outcomes for producers and related industries, but it protects Australia's environment, biodiversity and our people.

Improvements to the system

This is not set and forget for Australia's biosecurity system, but the start of a stronger, sustainably funded biosecurity system. The Australian Government will work with industry to review and consider further reform to continue to deliver a strong and equitably funded biosecurity system that is ready for future challenges.