



**Nursery & Garden Industry
Australia**

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
(Sent per email)

21 October 2011

Dear Jeanette,

Re Quarantine Amendment (Disallowing Permits) Bill 2011

With reference to your letter of 21st September 2011 seeking input into the above Bill we submit the following comments.

The Nursery and Garden Industry Australia (NGIA) has reviewed the proposed Bill and had discussions with other industry sectors. Businesses operating in the nursery sector are importers of plant products which have been managed under the existing quarantine regulations. While the existing processes and control measures are being reviewed, and improvements are being implemented, as a result of the Beale review in 2009, we believe that the actions and controls proposed under this Bill would result in unintended consequences that would quickly show the process to be unworkable and detrimental to our industry and to horticulture in Australia.

The NGIA fully supports the detailed submission made by the Industry Working Group on Quarantine and recommends that the Bill should not be endorsed by the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Robert Prince
Chief Executive Officer
Nursery & Garden Industry, Australia