

Attachment

Executive Summary and Introduction from the
Draft Extension of Policy for the Importation of Fresh Mangoes (*Mangifera indica* L.)
from Taiwan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This draft extension of policy report proposes that fresh mangoes from Taiwan be allowed entry into Australia subject to the imposition of phytosanitary measures for four fruit flies and four mealybugs. These pests require the use of risk management measures in addition to Taiwan's standard commercial production practices to reduce the quarantine risk to a very low level to meet Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP).

A combination of risk management measures and operational systems aim to provide a high level of sanitary and phytosanitary protection that will reduce risk associated with the importation of mangoes from Taiwan to meet Australia's appropriate ALOP specifically:

- pre-export vapour heat treatment (VHT) for the management of fruit flies;
- inspection and remedial action for mealybugs;
- operational systems for the maintenance and verification of the phytosanitary status of mangoes from Taiwan including:
 - registration of export orchards;
 - registration of packing houses and auditing of procedures;
 - packaging and labelling requirements;
 - specific conditions for storage and movement;
 - phytosanitary certification by Taiwanese quarantine authorities; and
 - on-arrival quarantine clearance by Australian quarantine authorities.

Australia initiated a pest risk analysis for the importation of fresh mangoes from Taiwan in October 2005, following a request for market access from Taiwan's Bureau of Animal and Plant Health, Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) in June 2003.

Subject to a range of risk management measures and phytosanitary procedures, Australia currently permits the importation of mango (*Manifera indica* L.) from the Republic of the Philippines (the Philippines) (Guimaras Island), Mexico and Haiti.

A preliminary assessment by Biosecurity Australia of the pests potentially associated with mangoes from Taiwan indicated that the pests do not pose significantly different quarantine risks, or require significantly different management measures, than those for which policy exists. In view of this, Biosecurity Australia advised stakeholders on 28 October 2005 in Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) 2005/14 that the access request would be considered as an extension of existing import policy.

In the pest risk analysis for mangoes from Taiwan into Australia, Biosecurity Australia identified pests and diseases of mango from Taiwan potentially associated with the

fresh mango fruit pathway and not present in Australia, or if in Australia, to be of limited distribution and under official control. These pests were further categorised for their potential for establishment and spread within Australia, as well as potential for consequences. On this basis, 18 arthropods and one fungal pathogen were categorised as quarantine pests.

Detailed risk assessments were conducted for those pests that were categorised as quarantine pests, to determine an unrestricted risk estimate for each organism. For those pests for which the unrestricted risk estimate did not meet Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP), risk management measures were identified. This draft report presents details of proposed phytosanitary risk management measures, operational procedures and draft import conditions, together with their objectives.

Biosecurity Australia invites comments on the technical and economic feasibility of the proposed phytosanitary risk management measures. In particular, comments are sought on their appropriateness and any other measures that stakeholders consider would provide equivalent risk management.

INTRODUCTION

Biosecurity Australia is a prescribed agency within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). Biosecurity Australia is responsible for developing international quarantine policy for imports and for liaising with overseas National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) to determine their requirements for exports of Australian plants and plant products.

In June 2003, the Taiwan Bureau of Animal and Plant Health, Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) requested market access for mangoes (*Mangifera indica* L.) into Australia. Quarantine policy currently exists for the importation into Australia of fresh mangoes from the Republic of the Philippines (the Philippines) (Guimaras Island), Mexico and Haiti. In addition, a draft revised import policy report for mangoes from India was released for stakeholder comment on 2 July 2004 (DAFF, 2004).

A preliminary assessment indicated that the pests associated with mangoes from Taiwan do not pose significantly different quarantine risks, or require significantly different management measures, than those for which policy already exists. Biosecurity Australia therefore determined that the market access request for mangoes from Taiwan could be progressed as an extension of existing import policy.

This extension of policy report is based on import policy for mango fruit from the Philippines, detailed in the import risk analysis (IRA) (AQIS, 1998; AQIS, 1999) and the draft revised policy for mangoes from India (DAFF, 2004).

As the initial step in the pest risk analysis (PRA) process, Biosecurity Australia identified and categorised pests associated with mangoes from Taiwan to identify the quarantine pests for Australia. Detailed risk assessments of these 18 arthropods and one fungal pathogen were conducted using the likelihood of entry, establishment or spread and associated consequences to determine an unrestricted risk estimate for each species.

Proposed phytosanitary risk management measures were then identified for each quarantine pest that did not meet the appropriate level of protection (ALOP) for Australia. These proposed risk management measures form part of the recommendations for the draft import conditions.

This report contains the following:

- background to this extension of policy and Australia's current quarantine policy for the importation of fresh mangoes;
- methodology and results of pest categorisation and risk assessment;
- proposed risk management measures; and
- draft import conditions.