

From: **Rino Donato Intertek** Rino.Donato@intertek.com
Subject: RE: Shipping oven-dried samples to Australia
Date: 21 May 2019 at 8:22 AM
To: Rabbi, Ismail (IITA) I.Rabbi@cgjar.org



Dear Ismail,

That is correct that Australian Quarantine will not accept oven dried samples. The only acceptable ways to send samples are either fully freeze dried, or desiccated in a generous volume of silica gel (at least a ratio of 10:1 silica gel to leaf material).

Australian quarantine will only release the samples to us if the declaration accompanying the samples states that they have been desiccated in a generous volume of silica gel (at least a ratio of 10:1 silica gel to leaf material).

In order to meet these requirements we suggest doing the following:

Step 1) Oven-dry the samples as they would normally do.

Step 2) after oven drying, place the sample plates in a box/container containing silica gel desiccant, so that the sample plates are sitting on top of the silica gel desiccant (60g silica for every sample plate). DO NOT get any Silica desiccant inside the wells as this will interfere with DNA extraction.

Step 3) Seal the box/container and leave it overnight

Step 4) Next day, take the sample plates out of the container, seal with cap mat (no need to tape them). For every 4 plates, put in one large bag. The samples then ready to ship. This will fulfil the Australian import on desiccation and bagging requirement.

Most importantly, when following the above method, do not get any silica gel desiccant in the sample wells. As mentioned above, this will interfere with our ability to extract DNA from the sample.

This will allow your colleagues to state on their declaration that the samples have been been desiccated in a generous volume of silica gel (at least a ratio of 10:1 silica gel to leaf material).

I have also attached a checklist of requirements for shipping leaf samples to Australia. Please follow this checklist carefully.

I have also attached a template for a signed manufacturer's declaration which needs to be attached to the outside of the package. This declaration must reference the Air Waybill Number and list and describe the samples (including the scientific name) and also state that the samples are fully freeze dried (or desiccated, if that method is used), free of pathogens, and for laboratory analysis only. The declaration must also include a description of the freeze drying process, or desiccation process, used.

I also recommend that you include a copy of the relevant BICON Import Conditions (see attached) together with the declaration, and attach both of these documents to the outside of the package (e.g. together with commercial invoice and other documentation).

If possible please ship by DHL courier, and ship samples to the following address:

Dr Rino Donato
Intertek
Ground Floor, 170 Greenhill Road
Parkside, SA 5063
Australia
Ph: 0457 732550

Finally, please email me a copy of the declaration before shipping the samples so that I can make sure all necessary information has been included.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Rino

-----Original Message-----

From: Rabbi, Ismail (IITA) <I.Rabbi@cgjar.org>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 May 2019 3:39 PM
To: Rino Donato Intertek <Rino.Donato@intertek.com>
Subject: Shipping oven-dried samples to Australia

Dear Rino,

Our NextGen colleagues from Tanzania as saying that it is prohibited to send oven-dried leaf samples to Australia. They do not have freeze-dryers.

Can you please advise.

Thanks,
Ismail

Total Quality. Assured.

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