

Import Conditions

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Case: Plant material for research purposes Effective: 12 Jan 2019

Plant sample (Other than whole seed or live plant material) — Not infected with a pathogen — Department approved method of preservation — Frozen in liquid nitrogen or fully freeze dried

Import Conditions

Import conditions define the biosecurity requirements which must be met for your import. Where import conditions have been developed, they will be listed below.

- a. The following import requirements apply to all plant samples (other than seeds) that are not infected with a pathogen or suspected to be infected with a [pathogen](#) and preserved by one of the following methods:
 1. frozen in liquid nitrogen at -196°C (documentary evidence from the supplier on company letterhead will be required on consignment arrival), or
 2. fully freeze dried (documentary evidence from the supplier on company letterhead will be required on consignment arrival)

Note: All other plant samples (not covered by the above criteria) including plant samples that are knowingly or potentially infected require an import permit.
- b. A Department of Agriculture and Water Resources import permit is not required, providing that the following conditions are met.
- c. Each consignment must be accompanied by a list of specimens and processing details.

To demonstrate compliance with this requirement you must present the following on a [Supplier's declaration](#):

A list of the specimens and the details of freezing in liquid nitrogen at -196°C or the [freeze drying](#) process.
- d. Only small amounts of preserved plant material per species may be imported per consignment. For large numbers of samples (more than 20), the importer must confirm all arrangements with the Department for the on-arrival inspection.
- e. Each sample must be sealed in a see-through container (e.g. small zip lock plastic bags) and clearly labelled with the scientific name. All samples must be double bagged and securely contained in a durable, sealed plastic container.
- f. Any packaging used with the consignment must be clean and new.
- g. Each consignment must be free of disease symptoms, live insects, contaminant seed, excess soil, and other contamination of biosecurity concern prior to arrival in Australian territory.
- h. Mail shipments must be addressed in the following manner:

Importer's Name
C/O- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Nursery stock/Seeds unit
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources physical address [in your region](#) [↗](#).
- i. In order to facilitate clearance, airfreight or mail shipments should have all documentation securely attached to the outside of the package, and clearly marked 'Attention Quarantine'.
- j. The importer must comply with all international (e.g. IATA) and domestic requirements concerning the safe handling and transport of [biological material](#). Safety precautions shall also be maintained during shipment and handling to prevent the escape of any material.
- k. All imported material must be presented to a biosecurity officer for inspection on arrival.
- l. If live insects are found during inspection, the consignment will be:

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1. held pending identification by a Department of Agriculture and Water Resources entomologist and treated using an appropriate method, or
2. exported, or
3. disposed of.

If other contaminants such as soil, weed seeds, sticks, or faecal matter are found on inspection, the consignment must be held, and the contaminants must be removed or treated via a method approved by the department, if possible. Alternatively, the goods must be exported or disposed of.

- m. Following inspection and provided all of the above conditions have been met the consignment may be released from biosecurity control by a biosecurity officer.
- n. Under the [Biosecurity Charges Imposition \(General\) Regulation 2016](#) and Chapter 9, Part 2 of the [Biosecurity Regulation 2016](#), fees are payable to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for all services. Detail on how the department applies fees and levies may be found in the [charging guidelines](#).
- o. In addition to the conditions for the goods being imported, non-commodity concerns must be assessed including container cleanliness, packaging and destination concerns, and may be subject to inspection and treatment on arrival. Please refer to the [Non-Commodity Cargo Clearance BICON](#) case for further information.

Warnings and Information Notices

-  You may require a wildlife trade permit and/or other approvals from the Department of the Environment and Energy. More information is available on the [wildlife trade website](#).

What happens next?

When you are importing into Australia a departmental officer will assess the risk posed by your import and determine the appropriate outcome to apply. You may use the link below to view the likely outcomes for this particular import scenario. Please be aware that the assessment conducted may result in an outcome that is not listed.

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