



## Solanum tuberosum seed for sowing

### Case Description

Effective: 29 November 2017

This case describes the requirements for the importation of *Solanum tuberosum* seed for sowing.

Import Destination: Australia

Related Information:

- Genetically modified seeds and plants
- Quarantine concern associated with seeds
- Biosecurity pathogens for true potato seed ([Appendix 1](#))

### Alerts

#### Notification of import condition reviews for seed for sowing

Effective: 13 February 2018 to 18 April 2018

Our department has been conducting operational reviews of plant, animal and biological import conditions to protect Australia's biosecurity status and to maintain our market access for agricultural products. The review of import conditions is part of strengthening biosecurity surveillance and analysis under the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. Further information on the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper can be located on the departments website at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/agwhitepaper-bio-surveillance-analysis>.

We have now commenced work on reviewing the conditions for seeds for sowing which encompasses over 30,000 species.

The seed reviews will:

- ensure import conditions are understandable and easy to find in our department's Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON)
- make sure import conditions are based on current information and risk management approaches while being a minimum burden
- allow us to identify the treatments available to manage biosecurity risks such as pests, disease and contaminants.

We have established an 'Imported seed regulation working group', consisting of departmental and industry representatives who will be used to assist in the review of import conditions and managing biosecurity risks.

The amount of change to import conditions will vary between commodities. Some will have minimal or no change, and some may have significant changes. Where a major impact on industry is identified, we will work with the industry and keep them informed of the changes and how they will be implemented.

In conjunction with operational seed reviews, we have also commenced an extensive review of existing import conditions for select 'vegetable seeds', with current priority on the following seed groups:

- Apiaceae family (carrot, celery, parsley)
- Brassicaceae family (cauliflower, cabbage)
- Cucurbitaceae family (cucumber, gourd, melon)
- Solanaceae family (capsicum, eggplant, tomato).

Further information on the vegetable seed reviews can be located at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/goods/plant-products/seeds-for-sowing/vegetable-seeds-policy-review>.

### **How to stay in touch?**

While we are working to safeguard Australia's agricultural industries, any changes to regulatory measures could affect seed importers and Australian primary producers. There are three ways you can stay informed about the progress of these reviews.

- As import conditions are reviewed, any updates or changes will be outlined in BICON. The best way to stay informed of changes is to register as a BICON user (use the follow case function to receive email notifications when a case changes or has an alert). Please refer to the online factsheet on how to 'Follow a BICON case' (<https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/HelpFiles/External/Conditions/How%20do%20I%20use%20Case%20Options%20and%20Case%20Details.pdf>).

If you are new to BICON, learn how to use BICON through our introductory eLearning module (<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/Documents/bicon-elearning-introduction/index.html>).

- Subscribe to Import Industry Notice to Industry for general updates on plant and animal classes (<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/industry-advice>).
- Register your interest by emailing the Plant Import Conditions Review team at [planticr@agriculture.gov](mailto:planticr@agriculture.gov).

## Table of Contents

<b>Solanum tuberosum seed for sowing .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Case Description.....	1
Alerts .....	1
<b>Table of Contents.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Import Scenario Definition.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1. Biosecurity Pathway .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1. Import Requirements .....	4
<b>Appendix 1: Biosecurity pathogens for true potato seed.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Appendix 2: Import Services Team contact details .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Appendix 3: Scientific Names.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Appendix 4: Document Options.....</b>	<b>10</b>

## Import Scenario Definition

### 1. Biosecurity Pathway

#### 1.1. Import Requirements

- a. Only *Solanum tuberosum* is a permitted species for this import pathway.



All subordinate taxa (e.g. varieties, subspecies, forms and subforms) of listed species are also permitted.

Hybrids are permitted if all parents used for the hybridisation are listed as permitted. Imported hybrids must be clearly labelled with their full parentage for identification by the department.

- b. Prior to the importation of goods into Australian territory, a valid import permit issued by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources is required.  
An import permit may be obtained by submitting an import permit application to the department (if viewed online, use the 'Apply Now' button at the bottom of this page).  
To apply you must logon to BICON and complete an application for Seeds for sowing
- c. Seed must be free of live insects, soil, disease symptoms, contaminant seed, other plant material (leaf, stem material, fruit pulp, pod material, etc.), animal material (animal faeces, feathers, etc.) and any other extraneous contamination of biosecurity concern.
- d. Each shipment must be packed in clean, new packaging, clearly labelled with the full botanical name (i.e. genus and species).
- e. Airfreight and mail shipments must be addressed in the following manner:  
Importer's Name  
C/O- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Post Entry Quarantine Facility - Plant Facility  
135 Donnybrook Road  
Mickleham VIC 3064
- f. 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'.
- g. On arrival in Australian territory, all consignments must be forwarded directly to the nominated post entry quarantine facility.  
Note: For material requiring movement to an interstate facility, consignments must be presented to a biosecurity officer to confirm that the material is contained and securely packaged, before movement can occur.
- h. If plant material arrives direct to the importer without the correct biosecurity direction it is their responsibility to secure the material and contact the department to ensure all requirements are met (e.g. inspection, treatments and growth in quarantine).
- i. All plant material must be grown and disease screened/tested at the government post entry quarantine facility. The importer is responsible for making a booking at the facility to confirm all arrangements, including space availability and number of plants, prior to the plant material arriving in Australia.

Name of facility	Contact details for lodging a booking
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Post Entry Quarantine Facility, Mickleham, VIC	Bookings are made online through the <a href="#">Post Entry Biosecurity System</a> . Email: <a href="mailto:PEQservices@agriculture.gov.au">PEQservices@agriculture.gov.au</a> Phone: 1800 900 090

 The importer is responsible for contacting the facility to confirm all arrangements, including space availability and number of plants, prior to the plant material arriving in Australian territory. Importers must clearly nominate on the import permit applications the facility that their material is to be sent to.

- j. There are scheduled fees associated with the growth of nursery stock in an Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources post entry quarantine facility, which must be met by the importer. Refer to the department's [charging guidelines](#) for further information.
- k. On arrival at the post entry quarantine facility, all consignments must be inspected by the biosecurity officer for freedom from live insects, live snails, soil, disease symptoms and any other extraneous contamination of biosecurity concern.
- l. Prior to sowing all seeds require mandatory treatment in accordance with the following:  
Surface sterilised with 1% sodium hypochlorite solution for 10 minutes, rinsed and dried and then dusted with Ridomil® seed fungicide.
- m. Seed must be grown in closed quarantine for a minimum of 6 months for visual screening and pathogen screening (Appendix 1) as outlined in the table below:

Plant pathogen type	Mandatory testing <sup>1</sup>		
	Electron microscopy	Herbaceous indexing	PCR
Viroids			1 test
Viruses	1 test	2 tests <sup>2</sup>	5 tests

<sup>1</sup> Additional testing of symptomatic plants may include culturing, microscopy and molecular testing.

<sup>2</sup> Herbaceous indexing is performed using *Chenopodium amaranticolor* and *C. quinoa*.

- n. If live pests, disease symptoms or nematodes are detected at inspection or during the post entry quarantine period, the consignment will be placed on hold. An assessment of the biosecurity risk will be made by a biosecurity plant pathologist or entomologist to determine the options that may be available to the importer. These options may include any one of the following:
  1. appropriate risk mitigation measures (at the importer's expense and risk) which may include further identification by the department or external service providers, treatment or growth in post entry quarantine, or
  2. exportation, or

### 3. disposal.

Further identification may not result in the release of goods and may incur substantial additional costs and time delays for the importer. Further identification will only be offered if it is deemed feasible and the importer agrees in writing to accept all costs and risks involved.

- o. No material will be released from biosecurity control until all testing and screening procedures have been completed and the material is screened for, and found negative of, biosecurity pathogens.
- p. 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](#).
- q. 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 BICON Non-Commodity Cargo Clearance case for further information.

## Appendix 1: Biosecurity pathogens for true potato seed

Biosecurity pathogens for [true potato seed](#) at August 2013:

<b>Pathogen type</b>
<b>VIROIDS</b>
Potato spindle tuber viroid (PSTVd)
<b>VIRUSES</b>
Andean potato latent virus (APLV)
Arracacha virus B – Oca strain (AVB– O)
Potato black ringspot virus (PBRV)
Potato virus T (PVT)
Potato yellowing virus (PYV)
Tomato black ring virus (TBRV)

## **Appendix 2: Import Services Team contact details**

Import Services Team

Phone: 1800 900 090

Email: [imports@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:imports@agriculture.gov.au)

### Appendix 3: Scientific Names

This appendix provides a list of Scientific Names that are covered by, or excluded from, this case.

**Included Scientific Names**

<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>		
--------------------------	--	--

## Appendix 4: Document Options

### Context & Inclusions

User Context: External

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix - Annexes                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Scientific Names |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Documentation Requirements  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Element Identifiers         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix - Glossary                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> What’s Changed              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Questions and Answers       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onshore Management          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Rationale                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Processing Path Only   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – References (Files and URLs) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures                  |

### Authoring Aids & Outputs

Output Format: WORD

This document is governed by the Terms and Conditions of the Department of Agriculture.

See <https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0> for further details.

© Commonwealth of Australia