



Australian Government
Biosecurity Australia

4 May 2007

BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2007/09
FINALISED POLICY REVIEW FOR THE IMPORTATION OF CAMELID
EMBRYOS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA)

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) advises stakeholders of the final import requirements for camelid embryos from the USA. The conditions take effect from 4 May 2007.

Australia permits the importation of camelids from the USA under conditions that were adopted in December 1993. There has been regular trade in small numbers of animals under these conditions. In response to interest in importing camelid genetics, Biosecurity Australia undertook a policy review of the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of camelid embryos and sought comments on proposed requirements in July 2006 (BAPM 2006/19). These requirements were based on the conditions for camelids from the USA and included the latest available scientific information and developments in embryo transfer.

A number of stakeholders provided comments on the proposed requirements and these have been taken into account in finalising the conditions. Final requirements for the importation of camelid embryos from the USA are detailed in the attachment to this memorandum.

Modification to the proposed requirements that were issued to stakeholders in BAPM 2006/19 relate to Johne's disease certification and the timing of testing for diseases of quarantine concern. They include:

- . amending the Johne's disease certification to require that the donors showed no clinical signs of disease during the collection period, in light of the extremely low risk of transmission of Johne's disease via embryo transfer in cattle and sheep and in accordance with domestic trade arrangements for ruminant genetics (clause 11);
- . specifying the collection period to be a minimum of one month and a maximum of four months to allow for characteristics of the camelid breeding cycle and to simplify test procedures; and
- . amending the timing of testing for brucellosis, tuberculosis, bluetongue and epizootic haemorrhagic disease to avoid unnecessary, repetitive testing (clauses 5, 6, 8, 9).

A summary of stakeholder comments and responses can be found on Biosecurity Australia's website: www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au.

Consultation

These requirements come into effect from 4 May 2007. Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer listed below. Alternatively, if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please advise the contact officer.

Information on import risk analyses and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available on Biosecurity Australia's website.

Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to BAPMs will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the *Privacy Act 1988*.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

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