



9 February 2001

**BIOSECURITY
AUSTRALIA**

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2001/02

**IMPORT RISK ANALYSES
SAWN CONIFEROUS TIMBER FROM CANADA, NEW ZEALAND AND
THE UNITED STATES
AND
WOODEN PACKAGING MATERIALS FROM ASIA**

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) is to advise you of the release and to provide you with copies of the issues papers on the import risk analyses (IRAs) concerning:

- sawn coniferous timber from North America, and
- wooden packing materials entering Australia from Asia (including any associated with imported commodities).

In our letter of 24 January 2000, stakeholders were advised of the final panel membership, the scope and the timing for the IRAs on:

- a) coniferous sawn timber and logs from North America, and
- b) wooden packing materials entering Australia from Asia (including any associated with imported commodities).

The purpose of this PBPM is to provide you with a copy of the Issues Papers for each of these IRAs.

The purpose of an Issues Paper is to:

- define the scope of the IRA
- provide background information
- provide terms of reference
- propose a preliminary timetable.

You are invited to provide written comment on the enclosed documents for these IRAs. Your comments will be taken into consideration by the RAP when conducting the IRA. AFFA will accept written submissions until the close of business Friday 13 April 2001. Responses should be forwarded to:

Import Risk Analysis Secretariat
Plant Biosecurity
Biosecurity Australia

AFFA
GPO Box 858
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6272 5094
Fax: (02) 6272 3307
Email: plantbiosec@affa.gov.au

Subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received with respect to an import proposal will be publicly available and be listed or referred to in papers or reports prepared in the proposal. If a request for anonymity does not accompany a submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of the *Privacy Act*. The contents of a 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*.

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list for this IRA, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to the Import Risk Analysis Secretariat at the above address.

Information on all IRAs being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the web at http://www.affa.gov.au/docs/market_access/biosecurity/plhome1.html

If there is sufficient stakeholder interest, the Risk Analysis Panel will conduct public meetings to discuss the scope of the analysis and issues arising from these papers. You will be notified at a later date of the details of these meetings.

I look forward to receiving your comments on the Issues Papers.

Brian Stynes
General Manager
Plant Biosecurity

Contact: Import Risk Analysis Secretariat
Telephone no: 02 6272 5094
Facsimile no: 02 6272 3307
E-mail: plantbiosec@affa.gov.au