

Recommendation	Deliverable	Outcomes, Issues and Concerns
<p>Recommendation 1 That the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry designate, without delay, a Senior Executive Service officer to be primarily responsible and accountable for the importation of horses into Australia.</p>	<p>Appointed Officer Responsible for Horse Imports (2P-3)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. On 20 June 2008 the Secretary issued an all staff email announcing Dr Ann McDonald as the Officer Responsible for Horse Imports.</p>
<p>Recommendations 2–5 The Government will move to appoint, on an administrative basis, an ‘interim inspector’. The role of the interim inspector will be to check, by inspection and audit, (PEQ) premises, import conditions covering the period until horses arrive at an airport in Australia and from when horses arrive at an airport in Australia until the completion of post-arrival quarantine (PAQ). The interim inspector will provide a report to the Minister and advice to the Executive Director of AQIS, the Chief Executive of Biosecurity Australia.</p> <p>The Government will also ask the Quarantine and Biosecurity Review to consider how an Inspector General of Horse Importation position can best be designed and implemented.</p>	<p>Appointed Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation (2P-1)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The Minister announced the appointment of Dr Kevin Dunn on as the Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation (IIGHI) 11 September 2008.</p> <p>Dr Dunn’s work program was developed following consultations with the Expert Group on Horse Importation, Biosecurity Australia (BA) and the Australia Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) on 19 September 2008. A charter outlining his responsibilities is publicly available at http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/about/eiimplementation.</p> <p>Dr Dunn’s work program and charter have been provided to the Minister.</p>
	<p>Approved Pre-export Quarantine Facilities (4FA-6)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. As at 30 November 2009, the number of PEQ facilities and their approval status are: five PEQ facilities have received full approval, 29 PEQ facilities have received interim AQIS approval, a new facility in Ireland has been inspected by AQIS with a view to gaining interim approval as a PEQ. AQIS has extended the interim approval status of all PEQ facilities with interim approval until 1 March 2010.</p> <p>AQIS has developed and distributed a Model Pre-export Quarantine (PEQ) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Manual to approved countries. The Model PEQ SOP Manual will be provided to current and future PEQ facilities as a recommended template to use in the upgrade or development of their SOP manuals.</p>
	<p>Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation Report to the Minister (3RR-5)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. Dr Dunn provided his first report to Minister Burke on 30 April 2009, which details outcomes of his audits and inspections of horse importation processes, beginning with entry into pre-export quarantine overseas through to completion of post-arrival quarantine requirements in Australia. Minister Burke has agreed to the public release of both the report and ministerial response—the department is liaising with the minister’s office to confirm the release date.</p>

	Appointed Inspector General of Horse Importation (2P-2)	<p>COMPLETED. On 18 December 2008, the Hon. Tony Burke MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry released the Quarantine and Biosecurity Review Panel's report, along with the Government's preliminary response. The panel recommended the establishment of a statutory office of the Inspector General of Biosecurity. This position will subsume the functions recommended by Commissioner Callinan for the Inspector-General of Horse Importation. The Government has agreed in-principle to this recommendation.</p> <p>Dr Dunn was appointed as the Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity on 1 July 2009.</p>
	Updated <i>Quarantine Act 1908</i> and subordinate legislation (1FR-1)	See comment for rec 36.
<p>Recommendation 6 The officer responsible for horse importation will develop and implement a process for the approval by AQIS of PEQ facilities, drawing upon the advice of the interim inspector to determine whether PEQ premises currently approved by the exporting country should be approved by AQIS. Import conditions for horses amended to include a requirement that pre-export quarantine premises must be approved by AQIS.</p>	Approved Pre-export Quarantine Facilities (4FA-6)	<p>COMPLETED. On 19 September 2008 AQIS finalised a process for the approval of PEQ facilities. The process has been sent to BA and the Interim Inspector General. It has also been provided to horse importers.</p> <p>Since August 2007, AQIS, BA and the DAFF Agricultural Counsellors have been inspecting PEQ facilities. See comments for rec 5 regarding PEQ facilities that have received full or interim approval.</p> <p>AQIS has received SOP (HACCP-like) manuals from most PEQ facilities granted interim approval, and is currently working with stakeholders to fulfil this requirement. AQIS has developed and distributed a Model Pre-export Quarantine (PEQ) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Manual which incorporated recommendations from the Biosecurity Australia PEQ report and the report by the Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation. The Model PEQ SOP Manual is being used to measure received SOP manuals against and in the provision of feedback to PEQ facilities that need to upgrade their SOP manuals. It is being distributed to potential future PEQ facilities as a recommended template for the development of their SOP manuals.</p>

	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.
	Interim quarantine measures review report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. BA has amended both permanent and temporary conditions for the Canada, US, Member States of the EU, Switzerland, UAE, Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore to include this requirement. Conditions for the return of Australian horses after competing in Hong Kong, UAE, Singapore and Macau have been updated. Import conditions for horses from New Caledonia, Fiji and Norfolk Island have been suspended (no imports have occurred for many years) – any import applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis with referral to BA.
	Pre Export Quarantine Review Report (3RR-1)	COMPLETED. BA provided a report to the Executive Director of AQIS and Officer responsible for horse imports on 27 February 2009. The report was completed after BA reviewed activities while horses were in PEQ in UK, Ireland, Germany, USA, UAE, Singapore, Hong Kong and Macau.
Recommendation 7 Biosecurity Australia will inspect and review the activities and events that occur from the time horses enter PEQ until the time they arrive at an airport in Australia, in order to identify any biosecurity risks and recommend any necessary changes to import conditions or other requirements.	Pre Export Quarantine Review Report (3RR-1)	COMPLETED. BA provided a report to the ED of AQIS and Officer responsible for horse imports on 27 February 2009. See comment for recommendation 6 above.
	Approved Pre-export Quarantine Facilities (4FA-6)	COMPLETED. See comment for recommendations 2–5 above.
Recommendation 8 AQIS will amend the import conditions for horses to impose a condition on the importer that a blood sample is taken while a horse is in PEQ. The conditions will include a requirement that the importer must arrange for part of the sample to be retained in the country of export and another part of the sample to be transported to Australia.	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. BA has amended these conditions for US, Member States of the EU, UAE, Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore to include this requirement.
	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.

<p>Recommendation 9 Biosecurity Australia will review the interim measures relating to the testing of horses for equine influenza as soon as possible to ensure that this testing time is as close as practicable to the end of the pre-export quarantine period.</p>	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. All countries with the exception of the US exporting horses to Australia have advised that testing within 4 days of export is the shortest time interval. Negotiations still occurring with the USA as they had requested testing be undertaken within 7 days of export.
	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.
<p>Recommendation 10 The current conditions for the importation of horses provide that all operations and procedures must be documented and that AQIS may audit approved PEQ premises.</p>	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. This requirement was in previous existing import conditions and is included in the interim conditions.
	Approved Pre-export Quarantine Facilities (4FA-6)	COMPLETED. All PEQ facilities nominated (and approved by exporting authorities) for the preparation of horses for import into Australia have been audited and inspected by AQIS and/or BA and the Department’s Agricultural Counsellors. No further inspections are planned by AQIS unless requested by importers.
<p>Recommendation 11 Biosecurity Australia will review the current interim quarantine measures for the importation of horses and include advice annually on the vaccine or vaccines that may or may not be used.</p>	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. BA has advised the vaccine strains to be used for horses from all countries. Only Canada, US, EU, Switzerland have registered vaccines (or are in the process of registering vaccines) containing updated strains. As other countries register vaccines with updated strains, the quarantine measures will be updated.
	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated the import conditions for all countries. The approved vaccine strains are not yet available commercially in the EU so AQIS has been issuing Certificates of Equivalence and allowing importation under the former import protocol.
<p>Recommendation 12 AQIS will revise the conditions to include the requirement that a blood sample is taken while a horse is in PEQ. The conditions will also make it clear that evidence of all of these matters must be made available by the importer for inspection by the Official Veterinarian at the port of loading.</p>	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.

<p>Recommendation 13 The import conditions for horses will be amended to require the importer to make available to AQIS sufficient evidence for AQIS to verify that there exists such certification as is required by its import conditions up to the time the horse arrives at the airport of departure and that the horse complies with those conditions.</p>	<p>Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.</p>
<p>Recommendations 14 and 15 Experts in biosecurity containment and animal health and safety will be engaged to inspect and assess the adequacy of the facilities for unloading and transferring of horses at Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport. The experts will also provide urgent advice on the construction of facilities at Tullamarine Airport in Melbourne.</p>	<p>Expert Group Established (2P-4)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The expert group was chaired by the Commonwealth Chief Veterinary Officer and comprised representatives from Australian Animal Health Laboratories, Animal Health Committee and the Australian Veterinary Association.</p>
	<p>Post Arrival Quarantine Review Report (3RR-3)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The terms of reference for the Expert Group were approved by the ED of AQIS. The first meeting of the Expert Group was on Friday 5 September 2008.</p> <p>A workshop was held between the Expert Group, BA and Interim IGHI on 19 September 2008. The parties agreed on an approach to the various post-arrival quarantine and pre-export quarantine reviews and inspections to be undertaken.</p> <p>From 10-12 October 2008 the Expert Group met with industry stakeholders, AQIS regional staff and inspected facilities at Melbourne Airport, Spotswood and Sandown Quarantine Stations. The Expert Group visited Sydney on 26 and 29 November 2008, 2 December 2008 and 7 January 2009 to inspect facilities at Sydney Airport and Eastern Creek Quarantine Station. The Expert Group also held meetings with industry stakeholders and AQIS staff.</p> <p>The Expert Group held consultations with AQIS and industry stakeholders on 19 February 2009 to discuss the Group’s preliminary findings. The Expert Group submitted its report to the Executive Director of AQIS on 12 March 2009.</p>
	<p>Interim and Final Airport Facility Upgrade – Kingsford Smith (4FA-1)</p>	<p>COMPLETED Temporary facilities such as showers have been provided. Permanent upgrades have been considered. In May, AQIS held initial discussions with Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL) regarding the recommendations of the Expert Group and BA including installation of a pedestrian gate and covered area at the livestock transfer facility, as well as arrangements for cleaning airstalls at the airport. SACL has advised that there is limited funding to undertake the recommended actions at the present time.</p>

	Interim and Final Airport Facility Upgrade – Tullamarine (4FA-2)	COMPLETED Interim facilities such as showers and a fenced area are in place. Permanent upgrades have been considered. The General Manager, Animal Quarantine and Export Operations formally wrote to Melbourne Airport on 26 June 2009 regarding the recommendations of the Expert Group, a follow-up letter was sent on 21 September 2009. AQIS received a reply on 16 October advising that Melbourne Airport has responded to each of the relevant Expert Group recommendations.
Recommendation 16 Appropriate facilities to enable those who might have had contact with imported horses at both Sydney (Kingsford Smith) and Tullamarine Airports to shower and change will be provided as soon as possible.	Interim and Final Airport Facility Upgrade – Kingsford Smith (4FA-1)	COMPLETED. See comment for recommendation 15 above.
	Interim and Final Airport Facility Upgrade – Tullamarine (4FA-2)	COMPLETED. See comment for recommendation 15 above.
Recommendation 17 Should there be any ports of arrival (other than Sydney or Melbourne) approved in future for the landing by air of live horses from places other than New Zealand, similar facilities will be made available.	Other Airport and Port Arrangements (1FR-5)	COMPLETED. AQIS in consultation with the Horse Industry Consultative Committee have agreed on a set of principles regarding arrangements to be put in place in any airport other than Sydney and Melbourne.
Recommendation 18 The Government will continue to control and operate PAQ stations for horses, noting that the Commissioner concludes in his report that exceptions could be made in special cases, such as the Sandown quarantine facility for horses.	Renewed Leases for Quarantine Station Facilities (4FA-5)	COMPLETED. The Government continues to control and operate post-arrival quarantine facilities for horse imports.
Recommendation 19 In the absence of other satisfactory government controlled and operated post-arrival quarantine stations becoming available before the options to renew the leases of Eastern Creek and Spotswood Quarantine Stations expire, those options will be exercised.	Renewed Leases for Quarantine Station Facilities (4FA-5)	COMPLETED. The lease for Spotswood Quarantine Station was extended in May 2008 and now expires in December 2010. The lessor for the Eastern Creek Quarantine Station was advised in February 2009 that AQIS will take up the option to extend the lease for this station until 2015 when it is due for renewal.

<p>Recommendation 20 AQIS will appoint experts in biosecurity and animal health and safety to review the facilities at Eastern Creek and Spotswood Quarantine Stations. AQIS will implement the matters specifically listed by the Commissioner in his recommendation, such as closed-circuit television, secure storage for drugs and equipment and isolation stalls for sick horse</p>	Expert Group Established (2P-4)	<p>COMPLETED. The Expert Group was chaired by the CVO and comprised representatives from AAHL, AHC and the AVA.</p>
	Consultative Arrangement Established (2P-6)	<p>COMPLETED. The Horse Industry Consultative Committee has been established and comprises representatives from the AQIS, BA, AVA and the Australian horse, horse transport and aviation industries. The first meeting of the Committee took place on 30 July 2008, the second meeting on 28 October 2008, a third meeting on 22 April 2009 and a fourth meeting on 21 October 2009.</p> <p>A meeting of State and Territory CVOs was held on 15 July 2008 to discuss the Government's response to the Equine Influenza Inquiry. It was agreed regular updates on progress with implementation of the Government's report will be reported to Animal Health Committee (AHC) to keep the States and Territories updated.</p>
	Post Arrival Quarantine Review Report (3RR-3)	<p>COMPLETED. See comments for recommendations 14–15 above.</p>
	Interim and Final Quarantine Station Facility Upgrade – Spotswood (4FA-3)	<p>Interim upgrades have been completed including additional showers, a lockable cupboard for vet drugs and a stall designated for sick horses.</p> <p>Permanent upgrades are being considered by AQIS now that the Expert Group and BA's PAQ reports have been submitted. To address some of the animal welfare issues raised by the Expert Group, AQIS engaged Dr Ivan Caple to provide detailed advice on improvements to the quarantine station. AQIS has received quotes for the improvements being proposed by Dr Caple and is currently prioritising work. Current upgrades to Spotswood Quarantine Station are on hold pending due to the temporary suspension of horse imports into the station.</p>
	Interim and Final Quarantine Station Facility Upgrade – Eastern Creek (4FA-4)	<p>Interim upgrades have been completed, including 24 hour security guards, showers at the entry gate, a lockable cupboard for vet drugs and a stall designated for sick horses.</p>

		<p>The Expert Group on Horse Importation raised concerns with the shower facilities at Eastern Creek following their inspection in December 2008. The facilities have been upgraded with the installation of flow through showers as per the recommendations from the Expert Group on Horse Importation.</p> <p>Further permanent upgrades have commenced now that the Expert Group and BA's PAQ reports have been submitted. AQIS also engaged Dr Ivan Caple to provide detailed advice on improvements to the Quarantine Station from an animal welfare perspective. Work that has been completed to date includes a new drain cover at the loading ramp, gravel in gateways to paddocks and new paddock use arrangements to remove the risk posed by hinglock fencing. Further work, such as changes to the ventilation system and hydrants, is ongoing.</p>
<p>Recommendation 21 The level of staffing for the Eastern Creek and Spotswood Quarantine Stations has been reviewed and upgraded since the outbreak of equine influenza in August 2007. Staffing levels will be kept under close review to ensure they are sufficient to carry out properly all activities and measures required by the current Standard Operating Procedures.</p>	<p>Appointed and Trained AQIS Personnel (2P-7)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. Staff numbers at the quarantine stations were increased after the EI outbreak, and prior to the release of the Inquiry report. Quarantine station managers advised the senior officer responsible for horse imports that staff numbers were sufficient in July 2009 during the development of the Horse Imports Program budget. Staffing levels will be kept under review.</p>
<p>Recommendation 22 The budgets applying to reception and quarantine of imported horses in Australia will be determined so as to be sufficient to fund the operations of the Quarantine Stations in accordance with these recommendations and any further procedures and requirements that are put in place from time to time.</p>	<p>Updated Horse Importation Budget (1FR-2)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The current budget for the Horse Imports Program has been thoroughly reviewed to develop the 2009/10 budget. The Program commenced the 2008/09 financial year with a deficit of approximately \$700k, this has increased and at the end of the 2008/09 financial year was approximately \$2.5 million. In September 2009 the Minister agreed that \$1.5 million, the costs of directly managing the EI outbreak and implementing the Government's response to the EI Inquiry, of the Program deficit would be absorbed by the Department.</p> <p>The Program will continue to work with industry to ensure the necessary resourcing levels are maintained to successfully manage biosecurity risks.</p>

<p>Recommendation 23 Biosecurity Australia will conduct, within six months, an inspection and review of the process of horse importation from the time horses arrive in Australia until the completion of their post-arrival quarantine in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ identify all relevant biosecurity risks; ▪ review the Standard Operating Procedures for clearance and quarantine of horses, as issued on 5 December 2007; and ▪ recommend any changes that should be made to those Standard Operating Procedures, after taking account of my other recommendations and comments in this report. 	<p>Post Arrival Quarantine Review Report (3RR-3)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. BA has undertaken inspections of airport and Government post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) facilities in Melbourne and Sydney. Inspections were also undertaken of Melbourne Airport and Spotswood and Sandown PAQ facilities in conjunction with the Expert Group in October and of Sydney Airport and ECQS with the Expert Group on 26 and 29 November 2008. BA also undertook an additional inspection of ECQS on 30 November 2008 and a further visit to Sydney Airport with the Expert Group on 7 January 2009. BA participated in a report-drafting meeting with the Expert Group on 20 January 2009 in Melbourne. BA also participated with the Expert Group in teleconferences with AQIS staff and industry representatives on 19 February 2009 to discuss key principles and directions of both PAQ reports.</p> <p>COMPLETED. BA completed its report on PAQ risks and procedures, which it submitted on 31 March 2009 (after the report of the Expert Group on PAQ facilities was submitted on 12 March 2009).</p> <p>COMPLETED. BA has provided advice to the AQIS ED and the officer responsible for horse imports on SOPs for clearance and PAQ of horses on 27 February 2009 (second and third dot points of the recommendation). BA will review future SOPs in light of any changes AQIS makes to instructional material.</p>
<p>Recommendation 24 The Standard Operating Procedures will be amended to require that there be a person with overall responsibility for the various clearance procedures and biosecurity tasks to be performed in the course of unloading horses at an airport and transferring them.</p>	<p>Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The work instructions have been updated to state “The General Manager Animal Quarantine and Export Operations Branch and the Regional Manager will identify an officer in each region to be responsible to the entire horse import process”. Officers have been appointed to this role and staff advised.</p>
<p>Recommendation 25 The Standard Operating Procedures will be amended to require the manager of a quarantine station to be responsible for ensuring that a written report on compliance with procedures is prepared and reviewed daily and that any non-compliance and corrective action are recorded.</p>	<p>Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The work instruction Post Arrival Quarantine (maintenance) has been updated to state: “Quarantine station manager or delegate is responsible for ensuring a written report on compliance with procedures is prepared and reviewed daily and that any non-compliance and corrective actions are recorded”.</p>

<p>Recommendation 26 The Standard Operating Procedures will be amended to require the duties of any people responsible for maintaining 24 hour security at a quarantine station (whether they be AQIS officers or private contractors) to be recorded in writing. The Standard Operating Procedures will also require that those people receive training in relation to biosecurity risks.</p>	Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)	COMPLETED. A Technical and Operational Reference has been developed which provides advice to the security officer.
	Appointed and Trained AQIS Personnel (2P-7)	COMPLETED. Instructional material is now available for security officers to advise them of their responsibilities and obligations. Instructional material is also available to quarantine station managers, requiring them to train security officers in their duties and responsibilities. This material is available to staff on the AQIS Instructional Material Library and in hard copy form.
	Trained and informed Non-DAFF Personnel (2P-8)	COMPLETED. Quarantine Station Managers have provided training to security guards on the technical and operational reference. Instructional material has been provided to import agents and other relevant non-AQIS personnel such as grooms, truck drivers and airport ground staff. The instructional material for non-AQIS personnel is also publicly available on the AQIS website.
<p>Recommendation 27 The Standard Operating Procedures will be amended to require, as a condition of entry for all non-AQIS personnel to a quarantine station, that each person report any suspected breach (by that or any other person) of quarantine procedures in the quarantine station.</p>	Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)	COMPLETED. The “Authorisation for a groom to enter the Quarantine Station” and “Authorisation for veterinarian, farrier or other authorised visitor to enter the AQIS quarantine station” forms have been amended to state that it is a condition of entry to report any breach or suspected breach to the quarantine station manager. The Horse Import Program has finalised the documents following receipt of legal advice.
	Trained and informed Non-DAFF Personnel (2P-8)	COMPLETED. Briefing is provided to all non-AQIS personnel at the airport prior to each flight and when entering the quarantine station. Biosecurity requirements for importers, veterinarians, grooms, transport drivers, freighter aircraft operations personnel and visitors to the quarantine station were developed and finalised on 23 September 2008 following consultation with AQIS regional office staff and the Horse Industry Consultative Committee (HICC). The requirements have been provided to relevant industry groups.
<p>Recommendation 28 Biosecurity Australia will review, at least once every two years, the Standard Operating Procedures to ensure that they adequately identify and manage the risk of entry and spread of equine influenza associated with the importation of horses into Australia.</p>	Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)	COMPLETED. The officer responsible for horse importation arranged, in July 2008, for Biosecurity Australia to undertake this review. Biosecurity Australia have provided their first report to AQIS.

<p>Recommendation 29 The Standard Operating Procedures and Work Instructions for clearance of imported horses will be reviewed by AQIS to address the matters outlined in Recommendation 29. They will also be updated regularly to take account of any recommendations made by: the interim inspector and ultimately the Inspector General of Horse Importation; Biosecurity Australia; or any other biosecurity experts commissioned to provide advice on the procedures and practices for horse quarantine.</p>	<p>Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. Comprehensive operating procedures have been prepared and provided to staff. All staff involved in horse imports have been trained.</p>
<p>Recommendation 30 The officer responsible for the importation of horses will ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ up-to-date copies of Standard Operating Procedures and Work Instructions are available both in soft-copy form on the AQIS intranet site and in hard-copy form at any premises where tasks associated with horse importation are ordinarily performed; ▪ AQIS personnel involved in the importation of horses are trained in all relevant aspects of procedures relating to the importation of horses; and ▪ AQIS personnel taking up duties involving tasks related to horse importation and not having performed such tasks for more than 12 months undergo proper training in the relevant procedures before commencing their duties. 	<p>Appointed and Trained AQIS Personnel (2P-7)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. Written procedures are available in soft and hard copy for staff involved in the importation of horses. Staff are fully trained in the revised work procedures.</p>
<p>Recommendation 31 The officer responsible for the importation of horses will, within three months, prepare a report to the Executive Director of AQIS that:</p>	<p>Person Responsible for Horse Imports Report to the ED AQIS (3RR-8)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The General Manager, Animal Quarantine and Export Operations Branch provided a report to the Executive Director of AQIS on 23 September 2008. The report made 11 recommendations to improve the ability of AQIS to enforce compliance with procedures, all of which were agreed to by the Executive Director on 23 September 2008.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ identifies (by category) all non-AQIS personnel involved in the importation of horses, including PAQ, from countries other than New Zealand; ▪ identifies the requirements in respect of biosecurity that AQIS has of those people; ▪ identifies the source of those requirements—for example, by import conditions, agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, with AQIS, and compliance agreement under s. 66B of the <i>Quarantine Act 1908</i>; ▪ assesses whether compliance with those requirements can be and is adequately being enforced; and ▪ recommends measures to rectify any shortcomings. 		
<p>Recommendation 32 The import conditions and Standard Operating Procedures will be amended, as appropriate, to include a requirement that the swabs are subject to a ‘rapid’ immuno-assay test to detect influenza A.</p>	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. BA has amended these conditions for US, member states of European Union, UAE, Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore.
	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September.
	Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)	COMPLETED. The rapid test is in use and instructional material has been written providing AQIS officers with clear instructions for its use.
<p>Recommendation 33 The import conditions for horses will be amended to include a requirement that each horse be tested for equine influenza as close as practicable before the end of the quarantine period and that a negative result for that test be available before the horse may be released from quarantine.</p>	Interim Quarantine Measures Review Report (3RR-2)	COMPLETED. BA has amended these conditions for US, member states of the European Union, UAE, Macau, Hong Kong and Singapore to require testing within 72 hours of completion of PAQ.
	Updated Import Conditions (1FR-3)	COMPLETED. AQIS has updated all import conditions to reflect the revised interim quarantine measures recommended by BA on 18 September 2008.

	Updated AQIS Instructional Material (1FR-4)	COMPLETED. This requirement has been added to the finalised instructional material.
Recommendation 34 Biosecurity Australia will undertake, in accordance with the Import Risk Analysis Handbook 2007, a comprehensive import risk analysis relating to the importation of horses from the countries and regions from which Australia currently permits such importation.	Import Risk Analysis Team Leader Appointed (2P-5)	COMPLETED. On 20 June 2008 the Secretary issued an all staff email announcing Dr Mike Nunn will lead the import risk analysis on the importation of horses.
	Import Risk Analysis (IRA) Report (3RR-4)	<p>The Chief Executive of BA announced the formal commencement of the IRA on 30 September. The IRA panel first met on 19 December 2008 to scope the IRA and held its second meeting on 3–4 March 2009.</p> <p>The panel held its third meeting on 27–28 July 2009 and its fourth on 1–2 September 2009. The work program indicates that the draft final report is scheduled to go for 60 days public comment in late September or early October, but this was delayed owing to:</p> <p>a) difficulties getting the IRA Panel together for its fourth meeting; and b) a requirement that any documents or statements that mention equine influenza must be forwarded for legal review.</p> <p>A revised workplan with specified milestones and dates was developed, with a target date of 30 November for release of the draft IRA. The draft IRA was released on 30 November for public comment, which will close on 1 February 2010.</p> <p>The report will be finalised after assessment of public comments, and it is anticipated that the final report will be released in the first quarter of 2010.</p>
Recommendation 35 Biosecurity Australia will review that formal import risk analysis at least once every two years to take into account any relevant developments in scientific knowledge or quarantine measures – specifically testing methods, vaccines, vaccination procedures and other matters that affect biosecurity.	Import Risk Analysis Team Leader Appointed (2P-5)	COMPLETED. See comment for recommendation 34 above.
	Import Risk Analysis (IRA) Report (3RR-4)	See comment for recommendation 34 above.

<p>Recommendation 36 The Department will review the <i>Quarantine Act 1908</i> in order to identify amendments necessary to ensure that the Act clearly and adequately confers all relevant powers to ensure the biosecurity of horse importation and quarantine. This review will be undertaken in close coordination with the Quarantine and Biosecurity Review.</p>	<p>Updated Quarantine Act 1908 and subordinate legislation (1FR-1)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The General Manager, Animal Quarantine and Export Operations Branch, provided a report to the Executive Director of AQIS that identified the legislative changes required for AQIS to enforce compliance with biosecurity requirements. These recommendations will be provided to the Legislative Review Unit for inclusion in the review of the <i>Quarantine Act 1908</i>.</p> <p>The Beale Review has recommended that a new Biosecurity Act be drafted to replace the <i>Quarantine Act 1908</i>. This recommendation has been accepted by the Government in-principle. The report mentioned above has been forwarded to the AQIS Legislative Review Unit for their consideration.</p>
<p>Recommendation 37 AQIS has commenced and will finalise as soon as possible a review of the fees charged in relation to the importation and quarantining of horses.</p>	<p>Updated Quarantine Act 1908 and subordinate legislation (1FR-1)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. The Minister approved amendments to the <i>Quarantine Fees Determination 2005</i> on 12 November 2009 to give effect to new fees for the importation of horses.</p>
	<p>Horse Import Fee Review Report (3RR-8)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. A comprehensive fee review has been completed in consultation with horse industry stakeholders. New fees were approved by the Minister on 12 November 2009 and implemented from 1 December 2009. The new fee is \$196 per horse per day in post-arrival quarantine.</p>
	<p>Updated Horse Importation Budget (1FR-2)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. See comment for recommendation 22 above.</p>
<p>Recommendation 38 Until the fee review is finalised, and provided there is a legislative basis to do so, the fee charged by the government controlled and operated quarantine stations for thoroughbred stallions temporarily imported into Australia will not be less than \$165.00 plus GST a day and the fee for all other horses will not be less than \$65.00 plus GST a day.</p>	<p>Updated Quarantine Act 1908 and subordinate legislation (1FR-1)</p>	<p>COMPLETED. Amendments to the <i>Quarantine Service Fees Determination 2005</i> were approved by the Minister and came into effect on 1 October 2008.</p>
<p>External assessment of the government response The government has engaged the services of Professor Peter Shergold AC as an independent expert to provide regular external assessments of the implementation of the government's response over the next two years.</p>	<p>Professor Shergold Project Review reports (3RR-6)</p>	<p>On 14 September 2009, Professor Shergold submitted his third report to the government on implementation of the recommendations of the Callinan Inquiry. The minister publicly released the report and the ministerial response on 10 December 2009. Professor Shergold will provide two more reports, in early February and June 2010.</p>

