

**AQIS Fact Sheet**  
**Autumn Moon 2010: Important information**

Mooncakes are associated with the deep tradition of celebrating the auspicious occasion of Autumn Moon, when the moon is at its biggest, roundest and brightest. This is a time for renewal, family gatherings and the exchange of mooncakes by the Asian community around the world.

Mooncakes and other items synonymous with the festival can be sent internationally with the very best of intentions, however well-meaning family and friends may not only be sending their best wishes and blessings, but possibly risk items that are detrimental to the Australian environment.

**What Autumn Moon delights do AQIS consider a risk?**

Items of concern include:

- Moon cakes containing egg yolk, meat or nut fillings
- Fresh pomelo, star fruit and taro

**What happens to risk items if they are brought into Australia?**

AQIS does not provide any treatment options for risk items seized through the airport and international mail—items will be destroyed, or returned at the cost of the sender. International mail is x-rayed or checked by detector dogs, and packages containing risk items are opened and inspected.

**What can I do to help my Autumn Moon gift pass quarantine?**

To avoid the disappointment of not receiving your Autumn Moon gift, make family and friends overseas aware of the inspection processes conducted at Australia's borders and remind them not to send gifts containing risk items.

You should also encourage them to list all contents of each parcel and to correctly fill out the Postal Declaration label.

**I'm travelling overseas. Can I bring mooncakes home with me?**

Passengers returning from overseas are reminded to declare all risk items when passing through quarantine, and that Australian markets stock a large variety of mooncakes. Travellers are encouraged to purchase in Australia, as mooncakes purchased overseas may contain risk items.

AQIS wishes an auspicious Autumn Moon that brings much joy, renewal and happy celebration.

**For more information:**

- visit [www.aqis.gov.au/autmnmoon](http://www.aqis.gov.au/autmnmoon)
- download the brochures *What Can't Be Mailed To Australia?* and *What Can't I Take into Australia?*
- call AQIS on 1800 020 504 (Free call in Australia and is in English)