



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



File: 00/15228

8 March 2002

## **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/08**

### **IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS:**

#### **NON-DOMESTIC FELIDAE - FINAL REPORT**

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with the final Import Risk Analysis (IRA) and quarantine requirements for non-domestic Felidae. Stakeholders who wish to appeal against the process followed should advise the Director of Quarantine by 12 April 2002.

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) issued interim requirements for the importation of zoo Carnivora in 1997, and in 1998 commenced an IRA of all Carnivora. It was subsequently realised that because of the diversity among the families of Carnivora, these should be studied one at a time.

Because of the high level of interest, Biosecurity Australia selected non-domestic Felidae family for the first IRA. Biosecurity Australia circulated for 60 days public comment a draft IRA report on non-domestic Felidae in February 2001 (ABPM 2001/08).

Of the 154 stakeholders who were sent a copy of the draft IRA report, seven responded. The comments from these have been summarised as an attachment to the final report. The responses were generally supportive of the IRA.

The major changes to the final IRA report include vaccination requirements for some endemic diseases. This was seen as a good general health requirement for the management of animals in quarantine.

In addition, non-domestic Felidae for importations that have been vaccinated against rabies will now be serologically tested for rabies neutralising antibody prior to importation.

*Mesocetoides* spp. has been given more detailed attention in the final IRA, although it was concluded that risk management measures were not warranted.

In the past, overseas and local circuses have been made approved quarantine premises for the purpose of placing appropriate quarantine restrictions on imported animals. This practice may continue under the new protocol, however, animals that do not meet certain requirements will be required to serve a minimum 30 days post-arrival quarantine in isolation from other animals.



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## Next steps

This ABPM advises the final conditions endorsed by the Director of Quarantine.

The IRA was conducted in accordance with the routine process as described in the *Import Risk Analysis Process Handbook*, which provides an opportunity for appeal to the Director of Quarantine. A stakeholder who considers that the process set out in the *Handbook* was not properly followed, or that the risk analysis failed to consider a significant body of relevant scientific or technical information, may appeal to the Director of Quarantine. Appeals on other grounds can not be considered.

Information on appeals is made public. Appeals should be sent to:

Mr Michael Taylor  
Director of Quarantine  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia  
GPO Box 858  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Appeals should be received by close of business on 12 April 2002. If there are no appeals, the attached conditions will be adopted on 19 April 2002. Animal Biosecurity will issue a further ABPM advising adoption or, alternatively, that an appeal has been received. All inquiries should be directed to the officer whose contact details appear below.

## Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda 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.

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.

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