



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



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ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2001/16

UNCOOKED CHICKEN MEAT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS

ISSUES PAPER

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides stakeholders with the issues paper for the uncooked chicken meat import risk analysis (IRA), for public comment. Comments are due by 21 September 2001.

In December 1998, stakeholders were advised of the commencement of a generic IRA for the importation of uncooked chicken meat via Animal Quarantine Policy Memorandum (AQPM) 1998/97. Further notifications consulted stakeholders on process issues and the proposed membership of the risk analysis panel (AQPM 1999/68), advised confirmation of the panel (AQPM 2000/23) and the outcome of an appeal against the scope and panel membership (AQPM 2000/34).

ABPM 2000/43 of 11 September 2000 provided a progress report on the IRA and the work program of the risk analysis panel. The risk analysis panel has continued to meet and has developed the attached technical issues paper. In terms of its work program, one of the members (Dr Gilchrist) is undertaking a literature review of Newcastle disease virus, avian influenza and infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) in wild birds. The panel will consider commissioning further work on other diseases at a later time. Because of the uncertainty surrounding the external program and the time required to complete it, the panel is unable to establish a firm timetable beyond the issues paper.

The attached issues paper is intended to promote discussion on the scope of the analysis, the main pest and disease risk issues and other matters relevant to the import risk analysis. The paper identifies 14 diseases as hazards requiring risk assessment including Newcastle disease, infectious bursal disease, avian influenza and salmonella infections. It does not discuss risk management issues which will be addressed in the next consultation step, the draft IRA paper.

Next Steps

I would appreciate receiving your comments, supported by scientific references, if available, by 21 September 2001. The risk analysis panel will consider all technical comments received and these will be taken into account when the panel prepares the draft IRA report.

Biosecurity Australia intends to hold a public meeting to discuss the issues paper and the IRA process in late August. Further details of this meeting will be advised through an ABPM.

Edmund Barton Building
Barton ACT
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
ph +61 2 6272 3933
fax +61 2 6272 5161
www.affa.gov.au
ABN 24 113 085 695



Please pass this circular to other interested parties whom you may know of, and who should advise Biosecurity Australia if they wish to be included in future communications on this matter. 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.

DAVID BANKS
General Manager
Animal Biosecurity

Contact officer:	Warren Vant
Telephone no:	02 6272 4436
Facsimile no:	02 6272 3399
E-mail	warren.vant@affa.gov.au