



**Australian Government**  
**Biosecurity Australia**

28 June 2006

**BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2006/18**  
**DRAFT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS (IRA) REPORT FOR CHICKEN MEAT**

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum (BAPM) is to notify stakeholders of the release of the draft import risk analysis (IRA) report for chicken meat and advises stakeholders of their opportunity to provide comment to Biosecurity Australia on the report. Comments would be appreciated by 28 August 2006.

Biosecurity Australia recently announced changes to the IRA team conducting the IRA of chicken meat and foreshadowed that the draft IRA report was at an advanced stage of preparation (see BAPM 2006/10 of 10 April 2006).

The Chief Executive, Biosecurity Australia, has now agreed to the release of a draft IRA report for the importation of chicken meat from all sources for comment by stakeholders by 28 August 2006. Due to the number of countries seeking access, the IRA is a generic analysis, that is, it is considering the importation of uncooked chicken meat from all countries. The analysis includes assessment of all potential disease agents that may be introduced to Australia via the importation of chicken meat with risk management options to address particular diseases, which may include cooking and other meat processing techniques. Import conditions for specific countries or zones will depend on the health status of the exporting country or zone.

The draft IRA report includes risk assessments of 21 disease agents of quarantine concern. The IRA team considers that 9 disease agents require risk management to meet Australia's appropriate level of quarantine protection. Risk management measures include such things as country or zone freedom, or processing on- or off-shore. Biosecurity Australia will consider other measures suggested by stakeholders that provide an equivalent level of protection.

The draft IRA report for chicken meat is available from the Biosecurity Australia website at [www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au](http://www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au). A hard copy of the document can be requested from the contact officer below. In addition, Biosecurity Australia will post on this website a corrigendum of corrections that may be required that come to its attention during the consultation period.

**Consultation**

Technical comments, supported by published references where available, on the draft IRA report for chicken meat should be submitted by 28 August 2006 to the following address:

Animal Biosecurity  
Biosecurity Australia  
GPO Box 858  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6272 4436  
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E-mail: animalbiosecurity@daff.gov.au

An electronic version of submissions would be appreciated. The IRA team will consider all stakeholder comments as it finalises the IRA.

For further information on the draft IRA report or on the IRA process please contact the officer below. Information on IRAs and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available on the Internet at [www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au](http://www.biosecurityaustralia.gov.au).

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If those parties wish to be included in future communications on this matter they should get in touch with the contact officer (details below).

### **Confidentiality**

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to 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 1988*.

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 1982*.

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