



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

11 November 2005

**BIOSECURITY AUSTRALIA POLICY MEMORANDUM 2005/17\***

**AMENDMENT TO IMPORT CONDITIONS FOR HATCHING EGGS OF DOMESTIC HENS**

This Biosecurity Australia Policy Memorandum advises stakeholders of amendments to the conditions for importation of hatching eggs of domestic hens from approved countries. These conditions take effect immediately.

**Background**

In light of the emerging global spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza, Biosecurity Australia has issued amended conditions for the importation of hatching eggs of domestic hens.

Importation of hatching eggs of domestic hens is currently only permitted from the United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Germany, The Netherlands, the United States of America, Canada and New Zealand.

**Amendments to conditions**

The amended conditions for importation of hatching eggs of domestic hens are attached (Attachment A). The main changes to the conditions are:

- Certification of country freedom from highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza in poultry; and
- Poultry source flocks must be tested for antibodies to Type A avian influenza virus with negative results. This requirement applies even when the exporting country certifies freedom from highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza.

Biosecurity Australia will shortly issue amended conditions for the importation of hatching eggs of turkeys and ducks.

**Consultation**

Please pass this notice to other interested parties. If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder on our register, or if you wish to be removed from the stakeholder register, please provide details to the contact officer (below).

Information on Import Risk Analyses (IRAs) and policy reviews being conducted by Biosecurity Australia is available on the Internet at <http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurityaustralia>

## Confidentiality

Stakeholders are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Biosecurity Australia 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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\* Please note Biosecurity Australia has introduced a single system of 'Biosecurity Australia Policy Memoranda' covering animal and plant issues. This replaces previous Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda and Plant Biosecurity Policy Memoranda.