



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Notice to Industry

14/2004-05

## **Revised AQIS Giant African Snail (GAS) Country Action List**

The purpose of this notice is to provide an early update on the pending changes to PQA 0370 issued on 15 December 2004 detailing the inspection regimes for containers entering Australia from GAS countries. The AQIS GAS Country Action List was reviewed to ensure that it accurately reflects the distribution of GAS and the risk posed by the importation of shipping containers from these locations.

A second driver for this review is the disparity between Commonwealth and Territory legislation. At present there are two GAS country lists in operation. The AQIS GAS Country Action List applies to all Australian states and territories, while the second list of additional countries applies to containers destined for the Northern Territory only.

AQIS has revised the single GAS Country Action List in consultation with Biosecurity Australia and a consultant statistician, and considered information from the international literature, trade volumes and AQIS GAS interception data. The revised draft (**Attachment 1**) has seen the number of countries included in the list increase. However, many of the newly added countries have been identified to have low volumes of imported container trade with Australia (less than 500 containers per annum).

The next step in the review process is to inform World Trade Organisation (WTO) member countries of AQIS' intention to add them to the revised GAS Country Action list using the formal Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) notification protocols. The protocols allow affected countries to appeal with supporting scientific data, within a 60 day period. AQIS will also contact all other listed, non member WTO countries to provide them with the same opportunity to respond to the notification, before finalising the AQIS GAS Country Action List.

AQIS will advise industry with the details of the final AQIS GAS Country Action List when this process is complete. The List is expected to be finalised for Australia-wide implementation in August 2005.

### **Further information**

For further information regarding the changes to the AQIS GAS Country Action List, please contact Wayne Riley on 02 6272 5515.

## Attachment 1 - Draft Giant African Snail Country Action List

**Note:** \* Indicates less than 500 containers imported into Australia per annum.

<b>Draft Giant African Snail Country Action List</b>
Barbados*
Benin*
Bhutan*
Brunei*
Burkina Faso*
Cambodia*
Cameroon*
Central African Republic*
Chad*
Christmas Island*
Congo*
Cook Islands*
East Timor
Equatorial Guinea*
Federated States of Micronesia*
French Polynesia*
Gabon*
Ghana*
Guadeloupe*
Indonesian Ports of Java, Sumatra, North Sulawesi, East Nusa Tenggara and Irian Jaya (only)
Ivory Coast*
Kenya*
Kiribati*
Laos*
Madagascar*
Maldives*
Mariana Islands*
Marshall Islands*
Martinique*
Mauritius*
Morocco*
Mozambique*
Myanmar (Burma)*
Nauru*
Nepal*
New Caledonia*
Niger*
Nigeria*
Niue*
Papua New Guinea
Palau*

Reunion Islands*
Seychelles*
Solomon Islands*
Tanzania*
Togo*
Tonga*
Tuvalu*
Uganda*
USA Pacific Islands (American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Mariana Island)*
Vanuatu*
Wallis and Futuna Islands*
Western Samoa
Zaire*
Zambia*
Zimbabwe*