



**Australian Government**

**Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service**

## **AQIS REQUIREMENTS FOR HITCH HIKING BIRDS**

**ADVICE TO SHIP'S AGENTS – SEAPORTS 01/07**

This advice is to remind shipping agents that the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) must be notified of any birds/animals hitch hiking on vessels arriving in Australia.

There has been a recent increase of hitch hiking pigeons on commercial vessels arriving from (or via) Asian waters. Ideally, Masters should be extra vigilant when travelling this route. They should try to remove the bird from their vessel prior to arrival in Australian waters.

The Quarantine Pre-Arrival Report (QPAR) is required 12 – 48 hours prior to the vessels arrival. It is the Masters responsibility to inform AQIS of any changes to this declaration after the QPAR is submitted.

The cooperation of shipping agents is requested to ensure that prior to their arrival in Australia; Masters of vessels are made aware of and comply with all AQIS requirements while in Australian ports and waters. Informing AQIS of any hitch hiking animals/birds prior to arrival will assist in a timely and efficient clearance from quarantine.

Robert Langlands  
National Manager  
Seaports Program

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