



24 September 2015

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Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 22 September 2015, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

Biosecurity policy for importation of precooked (microwave) bacon

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture has determined that processing of precooked (microwave) bacon within specific parameters can provide an equivalent level of biosecurity risk management to the recommendations of the Generic import risk analysis (IRA) for pig meat: final import risk analysis report (February 2004) which was notified to the WTO in G/SPS/N/AUS/150 (19 August 2003) and in G/SPS/N/AUS/150/Add.1 (28 June 2004). Heat treatment of pig meat is a risk management measure that helps to address a number of diseases of biosecurity concern, including porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus. The manufacturing process for precooked (microwave) bacon includes an initial partial cook and subsequent microwave heating process.

The determination takes into account current scientific information and the recommendations of the Generic import risk analysis (IRA) for pig meat: final import risk analysis report (February 2004). In particular, a porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome inactivation study on microwave heated bacon, published in January 2015, was reviewed: Mills ER, Barry RM, Myers SE, Mills EW (2015) Deactivation of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus during microwave heating of bacon. *Journal of Veterinary Science and Technology* 6: 213. doi:10.4172/2157-7579.1000213.

Importation of precooked (microwave) bacon may be permitted subject to the Quarantine Act 1908, and the application of specific sanitary measures. The policy will be taken into account by decision makers when considering import permit applications for precooked (microwave) bacon from approved countries in accordance with the Quarantine Act 1908 and Quarantine Proclamation 1998 as amended.

Precooked (microwave) bacon will need to meet the same requirements as for importation of cooked pig meat from approved countries, with variations to the required cooking process parameters. Imports of precooked (microwave) bacon from countries approved to export cooked pig meat to Australia will be able to commence under specific import conditions once veterinary health certification has been negotiated.

This addendum concerns a:

- ☐ Modification of final date for comments
- ☒ Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation
- ☒ Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation
- ☐ Withdrawal of proposed regulation
- ☐ Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force
- ☐ Other:

Comment period: *(If the addendum extends the scope of the previously notified measure in terms of products and/or potentially affected Members, a new deadline for receipt of comments should be provided, normally of at least 60 calendar days. Under other circumstances, such as extension of originally announced final date for comments, the comment period provided in the addendum may vary.)*

☐ Sixty days from the date of circulation of the addendum to the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: ☐ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

Text(s) available from: ☐ National Notification Authority, ☒ National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:
