



16 June 2016

(16-3288)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, received on 16 June 2016, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

The Biosecurity Act 2015 commences today, 16 June 2016

The Australian Government, through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, is reminding industry stakeholders and clients that the Biosecurity Act 2015 commences today, 16 June 2016.

The Australian Government, through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, advises that as of today, 16 June 2016, the Biosecurity Act replaces Quarantine Act, as the primary piece of commonwealth biosecurity legislation in Australia.

The Biosecurity Act has been developed in consultation with industry, agricultural stakeholders, state and territory governments, environmental groups, health professionals, international trading partners and the general public.

If you have any questions regarding how to operate under the Biosecurity Act, please contact the Biosecurity Implementation Branch at newbiosecuritylegislation@agriculture.gov.au or call 1800 040 629.

The Biosecurity Act 2015 and supporting instruments can be viewed on the Federal Register of Legislation (formerly ComLaw) website at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2015A00061>.

Importers, brokers, port operators and those involved in transport or supply chain logistics are advised to make sure they understand the legislation including changes that may affect your industry.

In some defined areas, the legislation makes provision for a transition period to allow businesses time to become compliant with new requirements.

For information on transitional arrangements, please refer to the department's website or the Biosecurity (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2015 at <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2015A00062>.

The department's website has dedicated information on the new legislation. You can find this information at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecuritylegislation>.

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:

The Australian SPS Notification Point
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia
Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678
E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au

Specific enquires about the new legislation and implementation process may be sent to:
Biosecurity Legislation Implementation Support Office
Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601
E-mail: newbiosecuritylegislation@agriculture.gov.au

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

The Australian SPS Notification Point
GPO Box 858
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Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678
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