



Notice to Industry

53/2009

## Giant African Snail (GAS) Policy – Commodity Inspection Requirements

### Who is affected by this notice?

As part of the ongoing review of GAS risk management strategies, this notice is to advise industry, particularly shipping companies and freight forwarders, of amendments to GAS conditions for commercial cargo *commodity* requirements from countries on the AQIS GAS country action list.

### What are the issues?

The approach rate/interception rate for GAS in cargo from GAS target countries has slowed in recent years and the compulsory inspection regime for cargo from GAS countries has been reviewed. As part of the review of AQIS management strategies to address the risk of GAS, AQIS will be:

- trialling a single GAS Country Action List nationally from 1 September 2009 for the inspection of *external* surfaces of containers and breakbulk and the *internals of empty* containers from all countries on that list (as outlined in the related Notice to Industry 52/2009 Giant African Snail (GAS) Policy – Container & breakbulk inspections); and at the same time
- amending ICON condition C8900- [Containers from giant African snail (GAS) target areas - Internal Inspections] to remove the general necessity of a ‘seals intact’ inspection and/or fumigation of cargo in containers from countries on the trial list.
- AQIS is introducing a range of alternative risk management measures to ensure that the quarantine risk posed by GAS remains low. These measures include pathway analyses and direct targeting of identified risk in cargo through the revision of importation requirements for specific commodities, such as scrap metals and other goods for recycling from GAS countries.
- In future, the inspection requirements for cargo from countries on the single GAS Country Action List will be as specified in the *commodity’s* importation conditions. Importers of cargo from GAS countries should check for changed importation requirements for these commodities at: [http://www.aqis.gov.au/icon32/asp/ex\\_querycontent.asp](http://www.aqis.gov.au/icon32/asp/ex_querycontent.asp) and in industry alerts posted on that web site.

### Further information?

For further information on this issue please contact Lindy Cayzer by e-mail at [treat.inspect@aqis.gov.au](mailto:treat.inspect@aqis.gov.au) or phone (02) 6272 4938.