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Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service



Cargo Management eBulletin

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Providing information to the Cargo and Shipping industries on the latest AQIS developments

✦ ICE Project expanded to tailgate follow-up inspections

AQIS is continuing to expand the range of activities undertaken to measure the effectiveness of controls applied in the quarantine clearance of imported goods. The Import Clearance Effectiveness (ICE) team has now commenced random follow-up inspections of containers that have undergone a tailgate inspection. The number of follow-up inspections undertaken by AQIS has not increased, but the focus for the random selection of containers has moved to consignments usually processed by tailgate inspection. Industry should note there will be no direct charge for ICE inspections, unless items of quarantine concern are identified which require further action.

When a container is selected for a tailgate follow-up inspection, the following procedure will apply:

- Brokers/Importers will be advised in advance, usually at the time of AQIS processing of import documents, when their container has been selected.
- The container will then be directed as per normal AQIS procedure to a Quarantine Approved Premises (QAP) for a tailgate inspection.
- Once the tailgate inspection has been booked, the Broker/Importer will be requested to contact AQIS (number will be supplied on the AIMS direction) to make a mutually convenient appointment time for the follow-up inspection. AQIS will work closely with all clients to ensure the ICE inspection does not unnecessarily interfere with normal operating processes.
- If the container passes the tailgate inspection, it will then be allowed to move to the importer's premises (if different from the site of tailgate inspection), where the ICE follow-up inspection will occur. The follow-up involves a full unpack inspection.
- (If the container fails the tailgate inspection, standard AQIS procedures will apply).

It is important to note that quarantine concerns detected through surveillance inspections may attract targeted inspections of subsequent shipments. These subsequent shipments may be directed to a QAP for unpacking and inspection, and will incur costs on a fee-for-service basis. **Click here for further information**, or contact the relevant ICE section within your local AQIS Regional Office:

NSW	(02) 8334 7663	WA	(08) 9334 1543
VIC	(03) 8318 6784	SA	(08) 8201 6134
S QLD	(07) 3246 8759	N QLD	(07) 4789 7888
TAS	(03) 6233 2474	NT	(02) 8920 7007

✦ CMR helpline closure

AQIS has now disconnected the 1800 170 548 contact number set up to handle AQIS related queries during the implementation of the Australian Customs Service's Integrated Cargo System (ICS).

Prior to 17 February 2006, the 1800- number was the primary method for industry clients to contact the AQIS CMR Helpdesk. After this date, clients calling the 1800- number heard a recorded message which advised of the closure, as well as the alternative regional contacts. From 31 May 2006, this recorded message will also be disconnected, in line with responsibility for all AQIS specific CMR inquiries being returned to AQIS regional offices.

If you have any further AQIS specific CMR inquiries, these should be directed to the following AQIS regional contact points during their normal operating hours.

Region	Contact Phone Number	Operating Hours (Mon – Fri)
NSW	(02) 8334 7400	7:30am – 4:00pm
NT	(08) 8920 7040	8:00am – 4:30pm
N. QLD	(07) 4789 7808	8:00am – 4:30pm (Townsville and Cairns)
SA	(08) 8201 6007	7:30am – 5:00pm
S. QLD	(07) 3246 8614	7:30am – 4:30pm
TAS	(03) 6233 3032	7:30am – 5:30pm
VIC	(03) 8318 6927	8:00am – 5:00pm
WA	(08) 9334 1500	8:00am – 5:00pm
AFTER HOURS	(02) 8334 7570 (National Air Cargo Unit)	24 hours, 7 days

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✦ Accreditation of QAP Staff

All new and existing Quarantine Approved Premises (QAPs) operators have been reminded that they must have staff at their facility that have completed quarantine accreditation training. The majority of the 2200-plus QAPs across Australia complied with this condition of approval by the cut off date of **28 April 2006**. As this deadline has now expired, AQIS has written to the QAPs that have failed to comply with these directions advising of the commencement of the suspension process.

The QAP Accredited Person Training consists of an on-line training package developed jointly by AQIS and the Industry Working Group on Quarantine. It aims to increase the quarantine knowledge of people working in QAPs who handle quarantine items. People who complete the on-line training will gain status as QAP Accredited Persons. The training package takes just a few hours to complete, and the on-line delivery mode allows participants to progress at their own pace and at times that suit them. More information on the QAP Accredited Person training and other developments relating to QAPs can be found at www.aqis.gov.au/qapupdate.

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✦ Summary of documents and alerts released by AQIS Cargo Management in May 2006

Reference Number	Document	Overview
1	<u>Notice to Industry 47, 2005-06</u>	AQIS Collection Arrangements for Documentary Assessment, Lodgement and Inspection Fees
2	<u>Notice to Industry 48, 2005-06</u>	Random Surveillance / Verification Inspections of Cargo

Reference Number	Document	Overview
3	<u>Notice to Industry 49, 2005-06</u>	Disconnection of AQIS CMR Helpdesk 1800- number
4	<u>Public Quarantine Alert (PQA) 0351</u>	Dispensation requests to the Biologicals Unit
5	<u>PQA 0477</u>	Changes to Schedule 5 of the Quarantine Proclamation April 2006
6	<u>PQA 0478</u>	Change of hours for Biologicals Unit Helpline
7	<u>PQA 0480</u>	Thailand removed from khapra beetle country list
8	<u>PQA 0482</u>	Fresh small corm taro tubers - <i>Colocasia esculenta</i> var antiquorum is not permitted entry
9	<u>PQA 0481</u>	Change in the importation requirements for human tissues and fluids

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✦ Contact cargobulletin@aqis.gov.au if you have any queries, suggestions or requests for further information

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