

WTO notification - Draft review of import conditions for apiaceous crop seeds for sowing into Australia

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources initiated a review in response to confirmation that '*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*' can be seed-borne and transmitted in apiaceous crops. The review has identified seed-borne pathogens* of several apiaceous crops, meeting the International Plant Protection Convention criteria for a quarantine pest. This review evaluates the effectiveness of existing risk management measures for identified biosecurity risks and proposes additional mandatory phytosanitary measures to reduce the risk of introduction of the identified quarantine pests for Australia. The recommended import conditions for apiaceous crop seeds (carrot, celery/celeriac, chervil, fennel, parsley and parsnip) for sowing are summarised below:

Mandatory off-shore or on-shore PCR testing or hot water treatment (50°C for 20 minutes); AND if the testing or treatment is conducted off-shore, a Phytosanitary Certificate with the additional declaration that the mandatory treatment or testing has been conducted in accordance with Australia's requirements.

The review proposes:

- 1) Mandatory testing or treatment (off-shore or on-shore) for anise, caraway, carrot, celery, chervil, coriander, cumin, fennel, parsnip and parsley seed.
- 2) A requirement that seed lots tested or treated off-shore be accompanied by an official government Phytosanitary Certificate endorsed with the additional declaration that the consignment has undergone mandatory treatment or testing in accordance with Australian import conditions.

This review of import conditions for apiaceous crop seeds is the first in a series of vegetable seed policy reviews. Other families of vegetable seeds being reviewed are: Cucurbitaceae (cucumber, gourd, melon, etc.); Brassicaceae (cauliflower, cabbage, etc.); and Solanaceae (capsicum, eggplant, tomato, etc.).

Stakeholders can comment until November 13th, 2017 *via* an online form or email: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/plant/apiaceous-crop-seeds> or plantstakeholders@agriculture.gov.au

**Cercospora foeniculi*, *Cercospora malkoffii*, *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *coriandrii*, *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cumini*, *Phoma complanata*, *Phomopsis diachenii*, *Ramularia coriandri*, *Ramularia foeniculi* and *Strawberry latent ringspot virus*

Text available at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/memos/ba2017-21>

Addendum: https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S009-DP.aspx?language=E&CatalogueIdList=238903,238883,238901,238902,238865,238867,238866,238863,238864,238862&CurrentCatalogueIdIndex=5&FullTextHash=&HasEnglishRecord=True&HasFrenchRecord=False&HasSpanishRecord=False