



27 November 2025

(25-7913)

Page: 1/3

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Uncooked, peeled, deveined and frozen prawns
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: ☒ All trading partners ☐ Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Guidelines for the evaluation of overseas pre-export testing programs exporting uncooked prawns to Australia. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 2 https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/policy/risk-analysis/memos/ba2025-a09
6. Description of content: In June 2023, we published the final report: Review of the biosecurity risks of prawns imported from all countries for human consumption (prawn review). These are the standard import conditions for uncooked prawns: • Processed, with head and shell removed. Prawns may retain the last segment and tail fan. • Frozen and deveined. • Each batch is subject to testing for white spot syndrome virus and yellow head virus genotype 1. Testing occurs pre-export and on-arrival. Australia has obligations under Article 4 of the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) to recognize the existence of equivalent biosecurity measures. We have developed guidelines to provide our trading partners with the principles and criteria that Australia will use to evaluate a pre-export testing equivalence program for prawns. To recognize a pre-export testing equivalence program following consideration of a request from a trading partner, the department will undertake an evaluation of the exporting country's competent authority. How to obtain a copy of the guideline document For any questions, or to obtain a copy of the pre-export testing guidelines please email aquaticbiosecurity@aff.gov.au.

To receive information and updates on biosecurity risk analyses, subscribe to Biosecurity Risk Analysis Animal at subscribe.agriculture.gov.au/subscribe. Subscribers will receive biosecurity advice notices and other notifications about animal biosecurity policy. Dr Rochelle Prattley A/g Assistant Secretary, Animal Biosecurity Branch E-mail: animalbiosecurity@aff.gov.au
7. Objective and rationale: ☐ food safety, ☒ animal health, ☐ plant protection, ☐ protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, ☐ protect territory from other damage from pests.
8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: ☐ Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): ☐ World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number): ☐ International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): ☒ None Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:
9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:
10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): Anticipated late 2025. Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): Anticipated late 2025.
11. Proposed date of entry into force: ☐ Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): Assessments welcomed from late 2025. ☒ Trade facilitating measure
12. Final date for comments: ☐ Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Comments welcomed on guidelines at all times. 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: Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA Tel: +(61) 2 6272 3933 E-mail: sps.contact@aff.gov.au Website: http://www.agriculture.gov.au

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

Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA
Tel: +(61) 2 6272 3933
E-mail: sps.contact@aff.gov.au
Website: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au>