



21 March 2017

(17-1560)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> AUSTRALIA <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
<b>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):</b> Natural casings (ICS Codes: 0504.22, 0504.23, 0504.26)
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
<b>5. Title of the notified document:</b> Biosecurity import conditions for natural casings. <b>Language(s):</b> English. <b>Number of pages:</b> 13
<b>6. Description of content:</b> The Australian Government has finalised a review of natural casings. As a result of the review, some changes will be made to import conditions. These changes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Removal of the requirement for an import permit. The goods will still have to meet Australia's import conditions, which will continue to be available through the department's Biosecurity Import Conditions system (BICON) at: <a href="https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0">https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0</a>;</li><li>- To simplify the accessibility of this information in BICON, the existing pathways have been streamlined into the following three pathways:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Bovine casings;</li><li>o Ovine/caprines casings; and</li><li>o Porcine casings from approved countries;</li></ul></li><li>- Removal of the departments approved countries for bovine and ovine/caprines casings. Disease freedom recognised by the OIE and FSANZ has been retained for diseases of biosecurity concern;</li><li>- The requirement for packing containers to contain casings from a single species of animals has been removed; and</li><li>- Scrapie requirements have been removed for natural ovine and caprine casings.</li></ul>
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
<b>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):

<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>None</b></p> <p><b>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</b></p>
<p><b>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b></p>
<p><b>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy):</b> To be advised.</p> <p><b>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</b> To be advised.</p>
<p><b>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy):</b> It is expected these changes will take effect later this year.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Trade facilitating measure</b></p>
<p><b>12. Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy):</b> 20 May 2017</p> <p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678 E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>
<p><b>13. Text(s) available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678 E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>