



NOTIFICATION

1.	<p>Notifying Member: <u>AUSTRALIA</u></p> <p>If applicable, name of local government involved:</p>
2.	<p>Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment</p>
3.	<p>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 prawns for human consumption</p>
4.	<p>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:</p>
5.	<p>Title of the notified document: Biosecurity Advice 2020-A02: Proposed interim import conditions for uncooked prawns for human consumption. Language(s): English.</p> <p>Number of pages: 3</p> <p>https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/SPS/AUS/20_1521_00_e.pdf</p>
6.	<p>Description of content: As set out in Biosecurity Advice 2020-A02 published on the department's website on 28 February 2020 at: agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/memos/.</p> <p>The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has determined that interim import conditions for uncooked prawns imported into Australia are required to manage the risks associated with infection by <i>Enterocytozoon hepatopenaei</i> (EHP). Australia's current import conditions for uncooked prawns (including freezing and head and shell removal) does not achieve Australia's appropriate level of protection (ALOP) for EHP. Interim import conditions are proposed to allow safe trade in uncooked prawns to continue and achieve Australia's ALOP.</p> <p>Pending consideration of comments received during the 60 day comment period, Australia is proposing that all uncooked prawns arriving in Australia from 1 July 2020 must be certified by competent authorities of exporting countries to have been deveined during processing (removal of the digestive tract that sits along the dorsal ridge of the prawn to at least the last shell segment and tail fan). Once the proposed interim import conditions are implemented, only prawn consignments that are verified to have undergone acceptable deveining, and that meet all other requirements for uncooked prawns, will be released from biosecurity control.</p> <p>The proposed import conditions for uncooked prawns would remain 'interim' while Australia finalises the <i>Review of the biosecurity risks of prawns imported into Australia for human consumption</i> as announced by Australia's Director of Biosecurity on 16 May 2017 (Biosecurity Advice 2017/07; G/SPS/N/AUS/422). The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment anticipates the draft report will be available for comment in mid-2020.</p>

<p>Australia's updated model health certificate for prawns and prawn meat for human consumption is attached, which includes the proposed additional wording (see Point 7.1 (2)) for competent authorities to certify that product has been deveined. Following the conclusion of the consultation period, trading partners are encouraged to implement required certification changes in a timely manner to prevent disruptions to trade from 1 July 2020. A further Biosecurity Advice and SPS notification will be issued following the consultation period.</p> <p>Comments on the proposed interim import conditions for uncooked prawns can be provided until 28 April 2020 and should be directed to: Animal Biosecurity Branch Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601. Email: Prawnreview@awe.gov.au</p>
<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>
<p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard: The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment proposes these changes to import conditions for uncooked prawns for human consumption following an assessment of information gathered during the Review of the biosecurity risks of prawns imported into Australia for human consumption. There is no known published research indicating that EHP spores in the digestive tract of imported prawns would be inactivated through exposure to commercial freezing, storage and transport temperatures (i.e. -18°C to -20°C).</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 July 2020 Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 28 February 2020</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 July 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 May 2020 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia Email: sps.contact@awe.gov.au</p>

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

The Australian SPS Notification Authority
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia
Email: sps.contact@awe.gov.au