



10 January 2023

(23-0266)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: AUSTRALIA 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): Imports of goods lodged under Schedule 3 of Australia's current tariff classification: horticultural fresh produce, cut flowers, seeds, plants and other plant-based commodities.
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Australia's importing country requirements for phytosanitary certificates from 1 May 2023. Language(s): English. Number of pages: 2 https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2023/SPS/AUS/23_0253_00_e.pdf
6. Description of content: This notification describes Australia's requirements for the acceptance of paper phytosanitary certificates for the importation of plant-based goods into Australia from 1 May 2023. Clarification is required due to the cessation of an interim policy during the peak impacts of COVID-19 and the presentation of hard (paper) copies of phytosanitary certificates that are not signed, dated and stamped in accordance with ISPM 12. From 1 May 2023, paper phytosanitary certificates must have all required information in accordance with ISPM12, including being signed, dated and stamped. This applies to all paper phytosanitary certificates dated on or after 1 May 2023. Australia will not accept paper phytosanitary certificates dated on or after 1 May 2023 presented with QR codes only and without a signature, date and stamp. Australia will not accept ePhytos or eCerts without prior agreement and arrangements for electronic exchange. Paper certification in accordance with ISPM 12 will continue to be required until ePhytos or eCerts are bilaterally negotiated between Australia and the exporting NPPO. Details of the notification are provided in the following Industry Advice Notice: https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/industry-advice/2023/02-2023 .
7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" 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>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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): ISPM 12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/industry-advice/2023/02-2023</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 1 May 2023</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 6 January 2023</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 May 2023</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): Not applicable</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <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:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>
<p>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:</p> <p>The Australian SPS Notification Authority GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au</p>