



Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access Communiqué—SDQMA Meeting #48

The Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA) met in Adelaide on the 29th – 31st March 2017. Meetings of the subcommittee enable communications between jurisdictions on regulatory arrangements for domestic quarantine and trade.

The key issues discussed are detailed below.

Review of the Fruit Fly Code of Practice

The SDQMA considered the proposed structure for the revised code of practice for fruit flies and were requested to provide PHA advice on the preferred model. PHA will provide that advice back to the DAWR who are the funders of the initiative.

Developing a template for use by CCEPP when making requests of SDQMA

The subcommittee considered draft principles for use by the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) when requesting advice from SDQMA and other forums regarding movement restrictions and other interstate measures during emergency response situations.

Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA) Work Plan

Members, and the Chair of Plant Health Committee (PHC) continued discussions confirming priority work areas for the subcommittee over the next 12 months. The discussions will assist in finalising the annual work plan for SDQMA and realignment of its proposed working groups to be presented to PHC for endorsement.

Certified seed potatoes

The subcommittee was provided an update on issues around the seed potato certification scheme and noted that Horticulture Innovation Australia were continuing work on proposals on a possible seed potato governance body and process for review of the national standard.

National policy development

The subcommittee was provided an update on the progress and development of a number of national initiatives as outlined below:

- A draft Decision Log Database for SDQMA has been developed by the SDQMA Secretariat. It is intended to logically record and easily track decisions and actions made over time by the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee accepted and provided feedback on the draft SDQMA Decision Log Database and its ability to track and account for decisions and actions made by the Subcommittee over time.
- The subcommittee acknowledged the overarching principles for domestic trade of plants and plant products as detailed in Part 1 of the paper 'Regulation of Australian Plants and Plants and Plant Products – Trade in a Changing Environment –A Plan for the Future' and agreed to ensure those principles were consistently applied when considering interstate trade and market access proposals.
- The subcommittee noted the development of the Australian standards for the application of phytosanitary treatments and agreed to develop a process for including the standards in domestic entry conditions. This will ensure that the application of phytosanitary treatments is harmonised across international and domestic trade and enable cross recognition of facilities that are able to effectively apply them.



- The subcommittee discussed the arrangements for management of fruit fly in Australia that aligns with international standards and national code of practice and supplemented by both historical data and observations of specific on-going surveillance of protected areas. Providing clear guidance to industry to maintain or improve market access remains a challenge, and is one of the issues being addressed through the National Fruit Fly Council.

The Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access concluded noting updates on plant biosecurity activities reported by all jurisdictions and is anticipated to meet by teleconference in July 2017 and again meeting face-to-face in November 2017.

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