



Department of Primary Industries

Procedure

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
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ICA-38

INSPECTION OF MELON THRIPS HOST PRODUCE FOR MELON THRIPS

1. SCOPE

This Procedure covers certification of melon thrips host produce that has been inspected within 48 hours prior to dispatch and found free from melon thrips.

2. CONDITIONS OF ACCREDITATION

The business must ensure that the following conditions are met:

2.1 Training

- 2.1.1 Approved Inspection Persons must be assessed at least annually as competent in the detection and recognition of thrips.
- 2.1.2 The names, specimen signatures and date of demonstrated competency of each Approved Inspection Person must be recorded on a register of Approved Inspection Persons (see example at Attachment 1).
- 2.1.3 If a person ceases to be an Approved Inspection Person, a note to that effect must be added to the register. The note must include the date the approval ended and name and the signature of the person making the note.

2.2 Segregation of host produce

- 2.2.1 A system must be implemented to ensure that all melon thrips host produce that has been inspected and found free of melon thrips is segregated from:
 - (a) all produce that has not been inspected under this procedure; and
 - (b) all produce that has been inspected under this procedure but has been rejected due to the presence of melon thrips or thrips-like insects.

2.3 Inspection Equipment

- 2.3.1 The following inspection facilities and equipment must be maintained and used for inspection under this procedure:
 - (a) an inspection bench or table in an area protected from adverse weather conditions;
 - (i) constructed of stable, rigid and durable material;

Disclaimer

The information contained in this Procedure is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (February 2020). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up-to-date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department or the user's independent adviser.

- (ii) of a reasonable size and height;
 - (iii) painted in a light colour or covered in a durable light coloured material; and
 - (iv) placed in an appropriately ventilated and lit area on a flat sealed and durable surface
- (b) a hand lens, microscope or other device that provides at least X10 magnification for the observation of suspect pests;
 - (c) reference illustrations and photographs for recognition of melon thrips;
 - (d) sealable plastic bags for collecting specimens of infested produce;
 - (e) sealable specimen jars for suspect pests;
 - (f) labels to uniquely number specimen jars when multiple specimens are collected;
 - (g) a fine paint brush for collecting samples of suspect pests;
 - (h) a preservative material for preserving samples for identification.

2.3.2 Regular checks of the inspection facilities and equipment must be carried out to ensure they continue to operate effectively.

2.4 Type of inspection required

2.4.1 Fruits and vegetables must be inspected after packing as packed product. Inspection may be carried out as an in-line inspection on product as it leaves the packing line, or as an end-point inspection of the consignment.

2.4.2 Live plants, cut flowers, foliage and parts of plants for propagation must be inspected individually immediately prior to packing or as packed product.

2.5 Sample rate for in-line inspection

2.5.1 In-line inspections must be done at the first point of packing at the facility where the produce is being packed.

2.5.2 Packed product must be selected from a lot that has been packed on the one day for certification under this procedure. The sample must be taken at the minimum rate of 2% of packages (one in every 50 packages or part thereof) or 600 units. Product must be selected at random from the packed product as it leaves the packing line in the packing shed for consolidation.

2.5.3 For Western Australia the sample rate is 600 units.

2.6 Sample rate for end-point inspection

2.6.1 Each consignment for certification must be sampled at the minimum rate of 2% of packages (one in every 50 packages or part thereof), or 600 units. Packages must be selected at random from within the consignment from a lot packed on the one day for certification under this procedure. The sample must include a sample from each category of produce in the consignment.

2.6.2 For Western Australia the sample rate is 600 units other than for live plants where the sample rate is as follows:

Number of packages in consignment	Number of packages to be inspected
0 to 30	All plants
31 to 300	30 plants
>300	30 plants plus 5% of those above 300

2.7 Inspection

- 2.7.1 Inspection must be done as soon as practicable and no more than 48 hours before certification and dispatch
- 2.7.2 The packages and selected units must be 100% inspected by an Approved Inspection Person and found free of any visible symptoms of melon thrips.
- 2.7.3 For leafy vegetables, live plants, cut flowers, foliage and parts of plants for propagation, sampled items are to be shaken over a light coloured surface in a manner to dislodge any thrips. This surface must then be examined for the presence of thrips.
- 2.7.4 For leafy vegetables, live plants, young leaves, leaf axils and flowers, particular attention is to be paid to both sides of the leaves, flowers and stems.
- 2.7.5 For fruit and vegetables, particular attention is to be paid to sites that provide shelter for thrips such as under the calyx for fruits such as tomato and strawberry, or at the flower end for other fruits.

2.8 What to do if suspect melon thrips are found

2.8.1 Rejection of produce

If a suspect melon thrips or thrips-like insect is found during inspection the following must be rejected for certification under this procedure;

- (a) for in-line inspection – the sample package or unit plus all host produce from that lot packed since the previous sample package or unit was selected.
- (b) for end-point inspection – the whole consignment.

Rejected packages and units must not be certified under this procedure unless and until the suspect thrips have subsequently been confirmed by the Department as not being melon thrips and all other conditions of this procedure have been met.

2.9 Notification to the Department

- 2.9.1 Suspect melon thrips egg, nymph or adults must be reported to the Department within 24 hours.

NOTE: Notification of the presence or suspected presence of melon thrips in NSW is required under Part 2 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*.

This can be done by;

- Emailing quarantine@dpi.nsw.gov.au, or
- Calling 1800 680 244, or
- Completing an online report at <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/report-a-pest-or-disease>

2.10 Inspection records

- 2.10.1 An inspection record must be maintained for all inspections carried out under this procedure. The inspection record must include:
- (a) date of inspection;
 - (b) place of inspection;
 - (c) name of Approved Inspection Person;
 - (d) type and rate of inspection;
 - (e) details of each lot and consignment inspected including type of produce and package identification (IP No. or name and address of grower and/or packer);
 - (f) number of packages sampled;

- (g) number of units sampled in each package;
- (h) total number of units sampled;
- (i) the inspection results including freedom or presence of thrips;
- (j) actions taken resulting from suspected detection of thrips, including a description of rejected produce.

2.10.2 An example inspection record is included as Attachment 2

2.11 Identification of Produce

2.11.1 All packages of fruit, vegetables, cut flowers, foliage and parts of plants for propagation that have been inspected and found free of melon thrips must be marked with the -

- (a) name of the produce;
- (b) name of the grower and packer;
- (c) words "Inspected by" followed by the IP Number of the accredited business that inspected the produce;
- (d) words "Meets ICA-38"; and
- (e) date (or date code) on which the produce was inspected.

2.11.2 For live plants that are consigned loose and not in packages, the plants must be identified in one of the following ways and in accordance with the requirements of the importing State:

- (a) the information in (a)-(e) above must be written on the consignment note or the invoice accompanying the plants and must be signed and dated by an Authorised Signatory; or
- (b) each plant must have a tag or label securely attached to it that includes the information in (a)-(e) above; or
- (c) the plants must be sealed in an enclosed vehicle or container and the seal number must be included on the PHAC accompanying the consignment.

2.11.3 For Western Australia live plants must also be labelled with the genus and species name.

2.12 Certification

2.12.1 A duly completed PHAC must accompany each consignment. The PHAC must include:

- (a) the words "Meets ICA-38" or the words "Inspected and found free of melon thrips" and
- (b) a description of the type of produce and the number of items.

2.12.2 For Western Australia, a PHAC which includes live plants must also include the genus and species name for each plant listed on the certificate.

2.12.3 A copy of each PHAC must be kept.

Books of pre-printed PHACs are available from ICA Records Management, Department of Primary Industries, phone 02 6552 3000.

Upon suspension, cancellation or withdrawal of accreditation, the PHAC book must be immediately returned to the Department.

2.13 Record keeping

2.13.1 The following records must be kept for 4 years:

- (a) Register of Approved Inspection Persons (condition 2.1.2); and
- (b) Melon thrips Inspection Records (condition 2.10.1); and

(c) the duplicate copy of each PHAC issued under this Procedure (condition 2.12.3).

3. DEFINITIONS

In this Procedure:

<i>Act</i>	means the Biosecurity Act 2015 .
<i>Approved Inspection Person</i>	means a person trained, assessed and found competent in the detection and identification of all stages of melon thrips.
<i>Authorised Person</i>	means an authorised officer under the Act or a person authorised under a law of another State or Territory that relates to plant biosecurity.
<i>Business</i>	means the legal entity accredited as a biosecurity certifier under the Act.
<i>Certification Assurance Arrangement</i>	means a CA Arrangement that enables a business or a person authorised under a corresponding law of a State or Territory, to issue a Plant Health Assurance Certificate that meets certain plant health quarantine conditions for trade within the State or between the State and other States and Territories.
<i>Department</i>	means the NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment – Primary Industries.
<i>end-point inspection</i>	means the process by which a representative sample is drawn and inspected from the finalised consignment prior to certification.
<i>facility</i>	means the location where plants are assembled, inspected, certified and dispatched.
<i>in-line inspection</i>	means the process by which a representative sample of packed product is drawn from a lot and inspected during the processing and packing of the produce.
<i>lot</i>	means a quantity of homogenous product assembled for inspection at one place and at one time and can include product from one or more growers or blocks or properties.
<i>melon thrips</i>	means <i>Thrips palmi</i> , including egg, nymph and adult stages.
<i>melon thrips host produce</i>	means the produce specified in Attachment 3.
<i>package</i>	means the final outer covering in which certified produce is consigned and may include a box, carton, bin, bundle or other packaging unit.
<i>Packed product</i>	means host produce that has been packed into its final package that may be from one or many lots. For live plants, this means a growing unit or a plant(s) that is bare rooted.
<i>Plant/s</i>	means living plants and parts of plants.
<i>PHAC</i>	means a Plant Health Assurance Certificate that is issued in accordance with the requirements of a Certification Assurance Arrangement.

Unit

means a single fruit or vegetable, bunch, head/floret, stem or bunch of leaves or live plant.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

[Biosecurity Act 2015](#)

Further information – <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant>

Policies – <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact/procedures>

Accreditation of Biosecurity Certifiers

Biosecurity Audit Frequency

Work Instruction – <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant>

WI-01 – ‘Guidelines for Completion of Plant Health Assurance Certificates’

Certification of melon thrips host produce under this Procedure may not be an accepted quarantine entry condition for produce to all intrastate and interstate markets.

Some intrastate or interstate markets may require additional plant health certification for pests and diseases other than melon thrips as a condition of entry.

It is the responsibility of the Business consigning the produce to ensure compliance with all applicable quarantine requirements.

Information on intrastate and interstate quarantine requirements can be obtained by phoning 1800 084 881 or accessing <http://www.interstatequarantine.org.au/>.

5. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Example Register of Approved Inspection Persons

Attachment 2 Example Melon thrips Inspection Record

Attachment 3 Melon Thrips Host Produce

REVISION HISTORY

VERSION	DATE	AMENDMENTS	
		SECTION	DETAILS
1.0	28 Feb 2020	All	New Procedure.

Melon thrips Inspection Record

Date of Inspection:				Package Identification:			
Place of Inspection:				IP Number:	N		
Name of Approved Inspection Person:				Name & Address of Grower and/or Packer: (if multiple, list in Comments/Findings column)			
Inspection type: <input type="checkbox"/> End-point <input type="checkbox"/> In-line		Produce Type: (if multiple, list in Comments/Findings column)					
Inspection rate: <input type="checkbox"/> 600 unit <input type="checkbox"/> 2%		Total Number of Packages In Consignment/Lot: (if multiple commodities list separately)					
Notes:				PHAC No(s):			
Package No.	Time sample taken (in-line only)	Number of Units	Total Number of Units	Comments/Findings			
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fail	<input type="checkbox"/>	Signature of Approved Inspection Person:			
Actions resulting from a suspected detection of thrips:							

Melon thrips Host Produce

For South Australia, melon thrips host produce means any of the following:

beans	capsicum	chilli	cucurbits	choko
cucumber	dragon fruit	eggplant	melons	okra
peas	pumpkin	silver beet	squash	tobacco
tomato	zucchini			

For Western Australia, melon thrips host produce means any plant or part of a plant from the following families excluding seeds, underground parts, dried or processed material and tissue culture:

Orchidaceae	Amaryllidaceae	Alliaceae	Poaceae
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The following **cannot** be certified for entry into Western Australia under this procedure; bitter melons, snake beans, long beans, okra, luffa, and whole plant vegetables including head lettuce, cabbage, fennel, spring onions, leeks, brussel sprouts, bok choy, choi sum, witlof, and artichokes.

For the Northern Territory, melon thrips host produce means the produce marked with a 'Y' in the following table:

Host Common Name	Host Scientific Name	Fruit and Vegetables	Plants and Flowers
Amaranthus	<i>Amaranthus</i> spp.	Y	Y
Angled luffa	<i>Luffa acutangula</i> Mill.	Y	
Aster	<i>Aster</i> spp.		Y
Asthma plant (weed)	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.		Y
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.		Y
Bamboo	Poaceae family	Y	
Beans	Fabaceae family	Y	Y
Bitter melon	<i>Momordica charantia</i> L.	Y	Y
Bunchgrass	<i>Eragrostis tenella</i> (L.) P. Beauv. ex Roem. & Schult.		Y
Calopo (weed)	<i>Calopogonium mucunoides</i> Desv.		Y
Capsicum, chilli	<i>Capsicum</i> spp.	Y	Y
Carnations	<i>Dianthus</i> spp.		Y
Certastium	<i>Certastium</i> spp.		Y
Chocolate-weed	<i>Melochia corchorifolia</i> L.		Y
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Y	Y
Chrysanthemum	<i>Chrysanthemum</i> spp.		Y
Citrus	<i>Citrus</i> spp.		Y
Coast button grass, Egyptian grass (weed)	<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i> (L.) Willd.		Y

Melon thrips Host Produce

Host Common Name	Host Scientific Name	Fruit and Vegetables	Plants and Flowers
Common vetch	<i>Vicia sativa</i> L.	Y	
Cotton	<i>Gossypium</i> spp.		Y
Cowpea	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i> (L.) Walp.	Y	
Crowsfoot grass (weed)	<i>Eleusine indica</i> (L.) Gaertn.		Y
Cucumber	<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L.	Y	Y
Cyclamen	<i>Cyclamen</i> spp.		Y
Eggplant/ Aubergine	<i>Solanum melongena</i> L.	Y	Y
Endive	<i>Cichorium endivia</i> L.	Y	Y
Fig	<i>Ficus</i> spp. [Moraceae]		Y
Five leafed cassia (weed)	<i>Cassia mimosoisea</i> L.		Y
French, Snake, Wing (bean)	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> L.	Y	Y
Gerbera	<i>Gerbera</i> spp. [Asteraceae]		Y
Helitrope (weed)	<i>Heliotropium ventricosum</i> R.Br.		Y
Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus</i> spp.		Y
Honeydew Melon, Hami Melon, Rockmelon, Green Delicia Melon, Asian melon, Hairy melon	<i>Cucumis melo</i> L.	Y	Y
Kang kong	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i> Forssk.	Y	
Leafy vegetables		Y	Y
Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.		Y
Okra	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i> L. Moench.	Y	Y
Oldenlandia (weed)	<i>Hedyotis corymbosa</i> L. Lam.		Y
Orchids	Orchidaceae family		Y
Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i> L. Batsch.		Y
Peas	<i>Pisum</i> spp.	Y	
Pennywort	<i>Centella asiatica</i> L.		Y
Pigweed (weed)	<i>Portulaca</i> spp.		Y
Plum	<i>Prunus</i> spp.		Y
Potato	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> L.		Y
Pumpkin, Squash, Zucchini, Gourds (Bitter Gourd)	<i>Cucurbita</i> spp.	Y	Y
Purpletop chloris (weed)	<i>Chloris inflata</i> Link.		Y

Melon thrips Host Produce

Host Common Name	Host Scientific Name	Fruit and Vegetables	Plants and Flowers
Rice flat sedge (weed)	<i>Cyperus iria</i> L.		Y
Sesame	<i>Sesamum indicum</i> L.	Y	Y
Silverbeet	<i>Beta</i> spp.	Y	Y
Smooth luffa	<i>Luffa cylindrica</i> Mill.	Y	
Soybean	<i>Glycine max</i> (L.) Merr.	Y	
Spade flower (weed)	<i>Hybanthus enneaspermus</i> (L.) F.Muell.		Y
Spinyhead sida	<i>Sida acuta</i> Burm.f.		Y
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> L.		Y
Tobacco	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i> L.		Y
Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i> L.	Y	Y
Turkey Berry (Cherry eggplant)	<i>Solanum torvum</i> L.	Y	Y
Water grass (weed)	<i>Bulbostylis barbata</i> (Rottb.) C.B.Clarke.		Y
Watermelon	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i> (Thunb.).	Y	Y
Wild gooseberry	<i>Physalis minima</i> L.		Y