# 13-2012 - Changes to the import conditions for raw and sun dried tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum)

**Other format**

This information is also available in the following format:

* [Notice to Industry 13-2012](http://www.daff.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/2129733/13-2012.pdf)
PDF [100.5 KB]

21 February 2012

### Who is affected by this notice?

Importers, brokers and others involved in the importation of raw and sun dried tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum).

These changes will not affect the importation of cut rag, cigarettes, cigars or roll your own (RYO) products.

### What are the issues?

The Quarantine Proclamation 1998 part 7 division 3,65 (2): Importation of other plant parts states “The importation into Australia of a plant or plant part of a kind mentioned in Schedule 6 (whether or not capable of being used for propagation) is prohibited unless a Director of Quarantine has granted a permit for the importation.” Whilst raw and sun dried tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum) has been on the list of schedule 6 for several years, the current import conditions do not require an import permit. This contradiction with the legislation is now being addressed.

### What is changing?

In accordance with the legislation, DAFF Biosecurity will align all quarantine measures on raw and sun dried tobacco by requiring valid import permit for importation.

The ICON database is being updated to reflect the requirement for an import permit. The changes to the import conditions can be summarised as follows

* A valid import permit is required.
* Conditions for commercial goods apply to non-commercial goods
* Consignments on arrival are subject to one of the following:
	1. heat treatment or
	2. ethylene oxide fumigation or
	3. processing at a Quarantine approved premises (Class 3.0)

### When will this industry notice become effective?

These changes will take effect from 1 April 2012.

Current importers of raw and sun dried tobacco will be advised of the changed import requirements in writing prior to the date of effect, and they will be advised to apply for (and have granted) a valid import permit for all future imports.

### Further information

See [Application to Import Quarantine Material](http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import/application) for information on permit applications and charges.

DAFF would welcome any questions or comments on the changes prior to the proposed implementation date.

Any queries can be directed to [Plant Quarantine](http://www.daff.gov.au/feedback?query=plantquar), DAFF Biosecurity or 02 62723917

**Last reviewed:**
21 Feb 2012

**Public Quarantine Alert PQA0794**

**Revised Import Conditions for kiwifruit (*Actinidia* spp.) propagative material**

Australia initiated a [pest risk analysis](http://www.daff.gov.au/ba/reviews/final-plant/bacterial_canker_of_kiwifruit_pseudomonas_syringae_pv_actinidiae_in_new_zealand/baa_2011-22-final_psa_pra) (PRA) after the detection of Pseudomonas syringae pv. actinidiae (Psa) on kiwifruit plants in New Zealand. Following the detection in New Zealand, Australia suspended the importation of kiwifruit propagative material from all sources, pending the outcome of the PRA.

Regional Officers and Importers are advised that the PRA has been completed and revised import conditions for kiwifruit nursery stock and pollen are now available on the Import Conditions (ICON) database ([www.aqis.gov.au/ICON](http://www.aqis.gov.au/ICON)).

Summary of the new import conditions:

· **Dormant cuttings**: introduction of hot water and surface sterilization treatments; increased post entry quarantine (PEQ) period (12 months instead of three months); introduction of specific climatic conditions for growth in PEQ (for disease expression); and disease screening, including the introduction of molecular testing techniques (PCR);

· **Tissue cultures**: increased PEQ period (six months instead of three months) and disease screening, introduction of specific climatic conditions for growth in PEQ (for disease expression); and disease screening, including the introduction of molecular testing techniques (PCR); and

· **Pollen**: must be sourced from countries or areas demonstrated to be free of Psa.

All other conditions in ICON will apply.

Importers are reminded that an [Import Permit](http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import/application/forms/plant-hort) must be obtained **prior** to importation.

# Public Quarantine Alert PQA0795

DAFF Biosecurity wishes to advise that import conditions for dried *Prunus* spp. fruit with seed for human consumption have been reviewed. New import conditions have been published and are effective immediately

*Prunus* spp. fruit with seeds - Sun-dried, unprocessed, tenderised, rehydrated, dehydrated – from *Plum pox virus* reported countries require an Import Permit and either a manufacturer’s declaration showing that the drying process has achieved 60°C for 60 minutes or a phytosanitary certificate demonstrating the fruit is from an area free of the virus. Fruit thatcannot meet these requiremetns will be subject to mandatory heat treatment on arrival

*Prunus* spp. fruit with seeds - Sun-dried, unprocessed, tenderised, rehydrated, dehydrated – Human Consumption – from Non-*Plum pox virus* countries require an Import Permit and may be permitted entry after inspection.

ICON ([www.aqis.gov.au/ICON](http://www.aqis.gov.au/ICON)) has been updated to reflect the above changes.

**Further information**

# For further information, please contact Plant Quarantine on (02) 6272 3917 or plantquar@daff.gov.au