

## Biosecurity – Accreditation of biosecurity certifiers

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CATEGORY: Operations and Industry	REVIEW DATE: 18/8/2021

### 1. Purpose

This policy aims to ensure:

- NSW biosecurity certification complies with national certification requirements
- The accreditation of biosecurity certifiers is consistent across NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI), an office within the NSW Department of Industry.

### 2. Scope

This policy is relevant to all staff of NSW DPI who are responsible for the accreditation of biosecurity certifiers.

### 3. Work Health and Safety

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* places an obligation on the agencies (NSW DPI and Local Land Services (LLS)) as a person conducting a business or undertaking and workers to provide a safe and healthy workplace. Safe Work Method Statements that support activities included in this policy must be used in identifying, assessing and controlling risks.

NSW DPI and LLS will work together to create a safe and supportive work environment when undertaking any activities for this policy.

### 4. Objectives

#### 4.1 The accreditation of biosecurity certifiers will be conducted in a consistent manner.

- a) The accreditation of biosecurity certifiers is consistent with the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 2015 (the Act) and the relevant certification arrangement
- b) Administration of accreditation is transparent and reportable.

## Activities

NSW DPI will:

- Adopt a standard application process for the grant and renewal of accreditation as a biosecurity certifier (4.1a)
- Audit biosecurity certifiers for compliance with the requirements of their accreditation and the relevant certification arrangement (4.1a)
- Require reaccreditation at an interval specified in the notice of accreditation (4.1a)
- Maintain a database of accredited biosecurity certifiers to enable reporting as to the accreditation status of a biosecurity certifier (4.1b)

### **4.2 NSW DPI will specify the minimum qualification, knowledge and experience requirements for accreditation as a biosecurity certifier.**

- a) NSW biosecurity certification is accepted nationally for the movement of product to interstate markets
- b) NSW accredited biosecurity certifiers comply with nationally agreed qualification requirements.

## Activities

NSW DPI will:

- Require an applicant to demonstrate that they can fulfil the qualifications, knowledge and experience requirements necessary for the grant of accreditation (4.2a)
- Liaise with interstate authorities who receive articles the subject of NSW biosecurity certification(4.2a)
- Identify training requirements for biosecurity certifiers (4.2b)
- Participate with national and interstate authorities in the development and recognition of biosecurity certifier qualification requirements(4.2b)

### **4.3 Biosecurity is a shared responsibility between government, industry and the community.**

- a) Biosecurity certification will improve biosecurity outcomes for NSW.
- b) The accreditation of biosecurity certifiers is consistent with NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021(outcome 9), '*Reduced red tape and improved market access*'.
- c) The accreditation of biosecurity certifiers is cost recovered.

## Activities

NSW DPI will:

- Ensure accredited biosecurity certifiers are the subject of a robust auditing program (4.3a)
- Ensure the consistent application of fees and charges to the accreditation of biosecurity certifiers and associated auditing services (4.3a)
- When required, prosecute the offences relating to contravening conditions of accreditation and impersonation of a biosecurity certifier (4.3a)
- Encourage and support the adoption of certification by accredited biosecurity certifiers (4.3b)
- Participate in the development of certification arrangements that provide intra and interstate market access for NSW products (4.3b)

## 5. Related procedures

Procedure - Accreditation of Biosecurity Certifiers

Procedure - Biosecurity collection, use and disclosure of information

## 6. Definitions and acronyms

NSW DPI NSW Department of Primary Industries

LLS Local Land Services

## 7. Legislation

*Biosecurity Act 2015*

Biosecurity Regulation 2017 Schedule 5 Fees

*Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*

## 8. Other related documents

Policy - Records Management (IND-I-177)

Policy - Information Security (IND-I-197)

Policy - Classified Information (IND-I-196)

Policy - Government Information (Public Access) (IND-I-178)

Policy - Biosecurity collection, use and disclosure of information

## 9. Revision history

Version	Date issued	Notes	By
1.0	18/8/2018	New policy developed in response to the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .	Director Biosecurity and Food Safety Compliance

## 10. Contact

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