QUEENSLAND FRUIT FLY

Queensland fruit fly is a key pest of a number of NSW horticultural industries, such as citrus, grapes, stone fruit, blueberries and apples. These are all significant contributors to the regional economies of NSW, with large export markets valued at over $100 million a year, and over $570 million including wine products.

The biosecurity framework and tools safeguard our economy, environment and community.

This factsheet provides a summary of management arrangements for Queensland fruit fly biosecurity risks in NSW. More detailed information is available in the Biosecurity Regulation 2017, Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017 and other documents at dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact

GENERAL BIOSECURITY DUTY

OUTCOME IS TO PREVENT, ELIMINATE & MINIMISE RISKS

- Any producer or person dealing with host fruit has a responsibility for managing biosecurity risks that they know about or could reasonably be expected to know about
- Removing and destroying fallen fruit or implementing an on farm biosecurity plan are some ways to discharge your duty

CERTIFICATION

- Existing Interstate Certification Assurance and Certification Assurance schemes are recognised in Parts 13 - 17 of the Biosecurity Act to facilitate market access
- Transitional arrangements are in place for accredited businesses to continue to self-certify produce that meets the requirement of the relevant arrangement

CONTROL ORDER

OUTCOME IS TO MANAGE AND CONTROL WITHIN A DEFINED ZONE/S

- The Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area will be managed under a control order
- Regulates the movement of host fruit into and within the area. Certain treatment, certification, packing and transport conditions must be met
- These conditions are consistent with current arrangements.
- Flexibility to respond to changing circumstances in a timely manner
General biosecurity duty

The general biosecurity duty can apply to anyone. It provides that any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier, who knows (or ought reasonably to know) of the biosecurity risk posed (or likely to be posed), has a biosecurity duty to ensure that the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised – so far as is reasonably practicable.

Certification

Certification provides information that a product is free from certain pests and diseases or it has been treated in a manner in accordance with trade requirements. These provisions will also provide support and recognition of some industry based market assurance schemes.

Plant Health Assurance Certificate is a biosecurity certificate or interstate biosecurity certificate issued in accordance with the requirements of a Certification Assurance Arrangement and includes those documents issued by a person who, prior to 1 July 2017, was authorised by the Department to issue those documents in accordance with the requirements of a Certification Assurance Arrangement.

Control orders

A control order is an order made by the Minister (or delegate) that establishes one or more zones to prevent, eliminate, minimise or otherwise manage a biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact.

Generally, a control order will be made to prevent the introduction of, or to eradicate, particular biosecurity matter.

A control order can be made quickly so that a timely response can be mounted to a biosecurity risk or impact that does not require an emergency response, or while longer term management arrangements are being developed.

For example, a control order could require containment, treatment or disposal of soil, stock, plants or products from a contaminated area, to prevent the contaminant entering the human food chain. It could prohibit grazing or, plant and livestock production on the contaminated area, and require decontamination actions such as removal or deep burial.

A control order can remain in place for up to five years. If it is clear that longer term management is required, a biosecurity zone could be established.

Dealing

Dealing is used in the context of ‘dealing with’ biosecurity matter or a carrier or to ‘engage in a dealing’.

A Dealing can include to keep, possess, care for, have custody of, control, produce, manufacture, supply, import, acquire, buy, sell, dispose of, move, release, use, treat, breed, propagate, grow, raise, feed, culture, experiment with, display, enter into an agreement that deals with, agree to deal with, and/or cause or permit a dealing.

For further information about the Act, visit our website or contact us:

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