

INDUSTRY ADVICE

Changes to NSW tramp ant entry conditions including the addition of manure as a tramp ant carrier

December 2019

Issues

Amendments to the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 and a new Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2019 (BOPA) commenced on 13 December 2019. These amendments include a number of changes to the tramp ant entry conditions.

1. Manure has been included as a type of organic mulch and carrier of tramp ants (including red imported fire ants).
2. African big-headed ant is now regulated under a separate control order.
3. The tramp ant entry conditions in the new BOPA have been simplified for ease of reference and now incorporate a number of movements that were previously allowed under group permits.

Conditions

1. Manure as organic mulch

Under amended entry conditions effective 13 December, manure is included in the definition of organic mulch. Organic mulch (but not hay or straw) from a known tramp ant infested area is required to meet the following before entering NSW:

The organic mulch:

1. has been treated so that all parts of the mass have been brought to a minimum temperature of 65.5°C,
2. has been handled and stored in a manner that prevents infestation by tramp ants immediately following treatment,
3. remains in conditions that prevent infestation by tramp ants until it arrives in New South Wales, and
4. is accompanied by Plant Health Certificate or BioSecure HACCP Biosecurity Certificate certifying that conditions 1 and 2 above have been met.

2. African big-headed ant

African big-headed ant is found on mainland Australia but not on Lord Howe Island where it is regulated as prohibited matter.

As the ant is found on mainland NSW, it has been removed from the definition of tramp ant in the regulation and carriers of African big-headed ant are now regulated in a separate control order. The control order regulates the movement of carriers from mainland Australia to Lord Howe Island to help ensure that the island remains free of this pest. The control order can be accessed [here](#).

3. Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2019

The Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2019 can be accessed [here](#).

More information

For further information contact Bev Zurbo, Industry Liaison Officer on 02 6938 1976 or email bev.zurbo@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

© State of New South Wales through the Department of Industry 2019. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NEW SOUTH WALES Department of Primary Industries as the owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (December 2019). 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 of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

Published by the Department of Primary Industries. PUB19/672