

Summerfruit

Australia

Limited

comment

The provisional final Import Risk Analysis (IRA) report provides a comprehensive review of pests and disease of quarantine concern associated with stone fruit from California and the Pacific Northwest states (Idaho, Oregon and Washington).

The report recommends the import of fresh stone fruit from California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. The report identifies 20 pests that require quarantine measures.

The recommended quarantine measures are a combination of risk management measures and operational systems to reduce the risk. These are:

a systems approach that includes in field control measures ,fruit cutting in the pack house , sourcing fruit from pest free areas, or areas of low pest prevalence(exports to Western Australia only) ,visual inspection of all consignments and remedial action if quarantine pests are detected and supporting operational systems to maintain and verify the phytosanitary status of consignments.

It will be essential that AQIS audit and verification procedures for these proposed measures are put in place well before trade commences and industry looks forward to working with AQIS to ensure that the proposed measures are subjected to ongoing audit and verification.

Importantly, the serious fruit fly pest known as the spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*), that has been recently discovered in the USA and attacks a wide range of hosts, has been considered within this provisional final IRA report. This pest was not considered in the draft IRA as the draft was prepared before the pest was reported on mainland USA. Due to the serious nature of the pest and its wide host range Biosecurity Australia is conducting a pest risk assessment for this pest over a wide range of commodities as a separate project from this IRA. Emergency measures to address this risk of *Drosophila suzukii* will be applied and implemented prior to any trade in stonefruit from the USA commencing.

Industry and other stakeholders look forward to reviewing the spotted winged drosophila pest risk assessment as an essential component of the US stone fruit IRA. They recognise that there will be no finalisation to the proposed protocol for importation of stonefruit from mainland USA until all stakeholders are satisfied that it adequately addresses the biosecurity risks including those posed by this new pest.