

23 July 2007

Update 4

Update on the Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy

The Biosecurity Surveillance Group is working on a project to develop a strategy for a cross-sector national biosecurity surveillance system that will set the direction for New Zealand's future biosecurity surveillance activities. An implementation plan will also be developed.

This is a regular update on our progress. If you would prefer not to receive updates, please email NZBiosecuritySurveillance@maf.govt.nz to let us know.

The timeline for creating the Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy has recently been revised.

The review of the current state of the biosecurity surveillance system and the vision, principles and approaches for the future will now be released together as a public discussion document. We anticipate this will happen in mid-late 2008.

Releasing both documents together will make it easier to compare the present and the future, which will help generate recommendations on how to improve biosecurity surveillance. It also means that the ideas people come up with in response to the review can be immediately considered in the process of developing strategy for the future.

We appreciate that many of you were anticipating seeing the review this week. However, it is necessary to extend the timelines to ensure that we've provided accurate coverage of the current state of biosecurity surveillance, prior to seeking public comment. Developing a strategy for the future depends on understanding the current situation, so it's important this foundation step is sound.

In order to achieve this aim, we'll be undertaking an assessment of the accuracy of the review in its current form with key participants or contributors to the biosecurity surveillance system. This will commence on 30 July 2007.

At the same time, we'll begin development of the Biosecurity surveillance strategy Part 2: Vision, principles and approaches for the future biosecurity surveillance system. Further discussion with biosecurity surveillance system participants will be undertaken in the interim.

We're committed to keeping you up to date with progress and are looking forward to contact with many of you over the next few months.

Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy development process	
Development of draft review of the current state of biosecurity surveillance	<i>Completed</i>
Initial verification of the current state with key participants and contributors	30 July 2007
Development of draft of Biosecurity surveillance strategy Part 2: Vision, principles and approaches for the future biosecurity surveillance system	Second half of 2007 – early 2008
Workshops with stakeholders	Mid 2008
Release of Review of Current State of Biosecurity Surveillance and Biosecurity surveillance strategy Part 2: Vision, principles and approaches for the future biosecurity surveillance system for public consultation	Mid - Late 2008

If you have any questions or comments on the Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy, please email NZBiosecuritySurveillance@maf.govt.nz



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