

29 June 2007

Update 3

## 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 review of the current state of the biosecurity surveillance strategy is continuing. The team have been working hard, and have put together a draft document outlining our perception of the current state of biosecurity surveillance in New Zealand.

The review of the current state of biosecurity surveillance was released for internal review within MAF Biosecurity New Zealand on the first of June, and we have received useful feedback across the scope of the review. The internal consultation period closed on 29 June, and we're now working to integrate the comments we've received into our draft document.

At this stage, it appears we may have the document available for wider consultation a week **ahead** of schedule, on 23 July 2007. Correspondingly, we'll require your comments **a week earlier**, by 17 August 2007, so please update your calendars.

We will be seeking written submissions and comments on the current state review, to find out whether it is an accurate reflection of the current biosecurity surveillance environment, situation, and activities being undertaken in New Zealand. We'd like to hear what we've described correctly as well as any gaps or inaccuracies, and we'd like to know what you think works well and what doesn't work well about the current system. We're also especially keen to hear of any activities which might be being undertaken, that we might not know about.

We also ask that you hold onto your suggestions for improvement in the biosecurity surveillance system. We won't need these as part of the current state review, but we will be undertaking further consultation on the future of biosecurity surveillance in New Zealand in late 2007 and early 2008. At that time, suggestions for future biosecurity surveillance needs and opportunities will be a focus of our efforts. The tentative timelines for our future state review have also changed slightly from those previously notified, so please update your calendars accordingly.

Timeline of upcoming events:	
Release of the review of the current state of biosecurity surveillance for external comment:	23 July 2007
External comments on the review of the current state of biosecurity surveillance due:	17 August 2007

Tentative timeline for review of future biosecurity surveillance needs document	
Review of future biosecurity surveillance needs released for internal comment:	Early October 2007
Internal comments due:	14 November 2007
Review of future biosecurity surveillance needs released for external comment:	12 February 2008
External comments due:	25 March 2008

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



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