

Import Health Standard
Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables
Lychee, (*Litchi chinensis*) from Australia

Issued pursuant to sections 24A and 166A of the Biosecurity Act 1993
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Contents

COMMENCEMENT	3
REVOCATION.....	3
ISSUING AUTHORITY	3
INTRODUCTION	4
IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD: FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES – LYCHEE (<i>Litchi chinensis</i>) FROM AUSTRALIA	9
1 Official contact point (New Zealand National Plant Protection Organisation)	9
2 General conditions for the importation of all plants and plant products	9
3 Explanation of pest categories.....	9
4 Application of measures	10
5 General conditions for fresh fruit/vegetables for consumption.....	11
6 Specific conditions for lychee fruit from Australia.....	11
6.1 Pre-shipment requirements.....	11
6.2 Transit requirements.....	13
6.3 Inspection on arrival in New Zealand	13
6.4 Actions undertaken on the interception/detection of pests/contaminants	14
6.5 Biosecurity/quarantine directive	15
6.6 Testing for regulated pests	15
6.7 Biosecurity clearance	15
6.8 Audit of offshore measures	15
6.9 Feedback on non-compliance.....	15
Appendix 1 Regulated Pest List Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables <i>Litchi chinensis</i> from Australia	16
Appendix 2 Document history.....	17

COMMENCEMENT

This import health standard comes into force on 24 July 2023.

REVOCATION

This import health standard revokes and replaces *Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables Lychee, (Litchi chinensis) from Australia* 23 April 2009.

The amendment history to this import health standard is set out in Appendix 2.

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This import health standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 to incorporate amendments made pursuant to sections 24B and 166A of that Act.

INTRODUCTION

SCOPE

This import health standard describes the requirements to be met to enable biosecurity clearance to be given for fresh lychee fruit (*Litchi chinensis*) imported into New Zealand from Australia for human consumption.

REFERENCES

Biosecurity Act 1993

Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure 2003. ISPM Publication No. 18, FAO, Rome.

Glossary of phytosanitary terms 2002. ISPM Publication No. 5, FAO, Rome.

Risk analysis for quarantine pests including analysis of environmental risks 2003. ISPM Publication No. 11 (Rev. 1), FAO, Rome.

New Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention, November 1997. FAO, Rome.

Ministry for Primary Industries Standard 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand*.

DEFINITIONS ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Biosecurity clearance	A clearance under section 26 of the New Zealand Biosecurity Act 1993 for the entry of goods into New Zealand.
Certificate	An official document, which attests to the phytosanitary status of any consignment affected by phytosanitary regulations [FAO, 1990].
Commodity	A type of plant, plant product, or other article being moved for trade or other purpose [FAO, 1990; ICPM Amendments, April 2001].
Consignment	A quantity of plants, plant products and/or other articles being moved from one country to another and covered, when required, by a single phytosanitary certificate (a consignment may be composed of one or more commodities or lots) [FAO, 1990; ICPM Amendments, April 2001].

Establishment	Perpetuation, for the foreseeable future, of a pest within an area after entry [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997; formerly established]
High impact pest	High impact pests are regulated pests that if introduced into New Zealand would have a major effect on the production (including access to overseas markets) of plants and plant products and/or the environment.
Import health standard	A document issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 that specifies “... <i>the requirements to be met for the effective management of risks associated with the importation of risk goods before those goods can be imported, moved from a biosecurity control area or a transitional facility, or given a biosecurity clearance</i> ”.
Infestation of a consignment	Presence in a commodity of a living pest of the plant or plant product concerned. Infestation includes infection [CEPM, 1997; revised CEPM 1999].
Inspection	Official visual examination of plants, plant products or other regulated articles to determine if pests are present and/or to confirm compliance with phytosanitary regulations [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; formerly Inspect].
International Plant Protection Convention	International Plant Protection Convention, as deposited with FAO in Rome in 1951 and as subsequently amended [FAO, 1990].
IPPC	Abbreviation for the International Plant Protection Convention.

International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures	An international standard adopted by the Conference of FAO, the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures or the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures established under the IPPC [CEPM, 1996; revised CEPM, 1999].
Introduction	The entry of a pest resulting in its establishment [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]
ionizing radiation	Charged particles and electromagnetic waves that as a result of physical interaction create ions by either primary or secondary processes [ISPM No. 18, 2003]
Irradiation	Treatment with any type of ionizing radiation [ISPM No. 18, 2003]
ISPM	Abbreviation for International Standard on Phytosanitary Measures.
Lot	The number of units of a single commodity identifiable by its homogeneity of composition, origin, etc., forming part of a consignment. [FAO, 1990].
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries. Acronym for the Ministry for Primary Industries which is the New Zealand national plant protection organisation.
National Plant Protection Organisation	Official service established by Government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC. [FAO, 1990; formerly Plant Protection Organization (National)]
NPPO	Abbreviation for National Plant Protection Organisation
Official	Established, authorized or performed by a National Plant Protection Organization [FAO, 1990].
Pest	Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]
Phytosanitary certificate	A certificate patterned after the model certificates of the IPPC [FAO 1990].

Phytosanitary certification	Use of phytosanitary procedures leading to the issue of a phytosanitary certificate [FAO, 1990].
Phytosanitary measure	Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests [FAO, 1995; revised IPPC, 1997; ISC, 2001]
Quarantine pest	A pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and (is) being officially controlled [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC 1997].
Regulated pest	A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest [IPPC, 1997] A pest of potential economic importance to New Zealand and not yet present there, or present but either not widely distributed and being officially controlled, or a regulated non-quarantine pest, or having the potential to vector another regulated pest into New Zealand.
Treatment	Officially authorized procedure for the killing or removal of pests or rendering pests infertile or for devitalization [FAO, 1990, revised FAO, 1995; ISPM No. 15, 2002; ISPM No. 18, 2003].
Viable	Capable of maintaining life, or able to live in a particular environment and able to procreate.

OUTLINE OF REQUIREMENTS

This import health standard outlines the requirements that must be met prior to shipment, in-transit and on arrival in New Zealand for fresh lychee fruit imported from Australia for human consumption.

This standard is replicated at the following Internet address:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1871>

Generic requirements for the importation of all fresh fruit and vegetables into New Zealand are described in Ministry for Primary Industries Standard 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand*.

NEW ZEALAND LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

All New Zealand import health standards are based upon risk analyses, which may assess either a commodity or a pest/pathway combination. New Zealand's legislative requirements and international obligations are taken into account when conducting risk analyses and applying the findings in the development of import health standards. The principal document for all New Zealand import health standards relating to plants and plant products is the Biosecurity Act 1993, whilst the international obligations derive principally from the guidelines on risk analysis developed under the auspices of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures operating within the framework of the International Plant Protection Convention, and the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD: FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES – LYCHEE (*Litchi chinensis*) FROM AUSTRALIA

1 Official contact point (New Zealand National Plant Protection Organisation)

The official contact point in New Zealand for overseas NPPOs is the Ministry for Primary Industries. All communication pertaining to this import health standard should be addressed to:

Plant Health
Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

E-mail: plantimports@mpi.govt.nz

2 General conditions for the importation of all plants and plant products

Plants and plant products are not permitted entry into New Zealand unless an import health standard has been issued in accordance with Section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993. Should plants or plant products, for which no import health standard exists, be intercepted by MPI, the importer will be offered the option of reshipment or destruction of the consignment (at their expense).

The NPPO of the exporting country is required to inform MPI of any newly recorded pests which may infest/infect any commodity approved for export to New Zealand.

3 Explanation of pest categories

MPI categorises pests associated with plants and plant products into regulated and non-regulated pests. Measures to prevent the establishment of regulated pests in New Zealand are developed in accordance with the appropriate FAO ISPMs and other relevant international standards.

Regulated pests are those pests for which actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected. As well as quarantine pests these include pests that may pose a risk to human or animal health or to the environment, vectors of associated quarantine pests, and virulent strains (not present in New Zealand) of non-regulated pests and contaminants. Non-regulated pests are those pests for which actions would not be undertaken if they were

intercepted/detected.

Pests (including weeds) associated with each commodity will appear on a separate pest list which will be attached to each import health standard as an Appendix.

4 Application of measures

A number of different measures may be applied to pests based on the outcome of pest risk analyses. Required measures may include:

- Surveillance for pest freedom
- Testing prior to export for regulated pests which cannot be readily detected by inspection (e.g. viruses on propagating material)
- Specific pre-shipment pest control activities to be undertaken by the supply country's contracting party
- The application of a pre-shipment treatment
- Inspection of the export consignment
- Issuance of a phytosanitary certificate which attests to the phytosanitary status of a consignment
- Treatment on arrival in New Zealand.

5 General conditions for fresh fruit/vegetables for consumption

Only clean, inert/synthetic material may be used for the protection, packaging and shipping of fresh fruit/vegetables.

Consignments contaminated with soil, or other potential carriers of regulated pests (e.g. leaf litter) will not be permitted entry if the level of contamination is above the acceptance level (see section 7.4 in the MPI standard *Importation and clearance of fresh fruit and vegetables into New Zealand* <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1147>).

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country's NPPO must accompany all consignments of fresh fruit and vegetables exported to New Zealand.

MPI will inspect all consignments of fresh fruit and vegetables to verify that New Zealand's phytosanitary requirements have been met.

6 Specific conditions for lychee fruit from Australia.

6.1 PRE-SHIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

6.1.1 Inspection of the consignment

MPI requires that the Australia NPPO sample and visually inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all the regulated pests specified by MPI and ensure that it conforms with New Zealand's current import requirements. A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if live regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the consignment is effectively treated. If pests are found which are not listed in the import health standard, the Australia NPPO must establish their regulatory status. This information is available in MPI's "Official New Zealand Pest Register" <https://onzpr.mpi.govt.nz/>.

If a pest is not listed in this register, the Australian NPPO must contact MPI (see Section 1) to establish the regulatory status of the pest.

6.1.2 Testing of the consignment

Testing of the consignment prior to export to New Zealand for regulated pests which are not visually detectable (viz. fungi and bacteria) is not required for fresh lychees from Australia.

6.1.3 Phytosanitary measures

All lychee fruit for export to New Zealand must be sourced from orchards that produce commercial lychee under standard cultivation, pest-control, harvesting and packing activities. During harvest cracked, infested or damaged fruit must be discarded prior to treatment.

MPI requires a mandatory pre-export treatment for high impact pests, e.g., economically important fruit fly species. MPI currently approves irradiation as a treatment for all arthropod pests listed on the Australian lychee pest list. The application of the irradiation treatment must be carried out in accordance with the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures publication No. 18: *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure*.

– Lychee fruit must be irradiated with a minimum dose of 289 Gy.

6.1.4 Documentation

Bilateral quarantine arrangement

Lychee fruit may only be imported into New Zealand from Australia under the terms of the *Export Plan for Fresh Produce from Australia to New Zealand*.

Phytosanitary certificate: Required.

6.1.5 Phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the Australia NPPO must accompany all lychee consignments exported to New Zealand.

Before a phytosanitary certificate is issued, the Australia NPPO must be satisfied that the following activities required by MPI have been undertaken.

The lychees have:

- (i) been visually inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any regulated plant pathogens

AND

- (ii) undergone an agreed treatment that is effective against associated fruit fly species of economic significance in accordance with Appendix 12 of the Bilateral Quarantine Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries and the Australian Department of Agriculture

6.1.6 Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate

If satisfied that the pre-shipment activities have been undertaken, the Australia NPPO must confirm this by providing the following additional declaration to the phytosanitary certificate:

- (i) The lychee fruit have been treated in accordance with Appendix 12 of the

NOTE: full details of the irradiation treatment must be recorded in the "Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment" area of the phytosanitary certificate and must specify the treatment dosage rate.

6.2 TRANSIT REQUIREMENTS

The NPPO must ensure that the consignment (prior to export) is held in a manner to ensure that infestation/reinfestation does not occur following phytosanitary certification. Where a consignment is split or has its packaging changed while in another country (or countries) *en route* to New Zealand, a "Re-export Certificate" is required. Where a consignment is held under bond as a result of the need to change conveyances and is kept in the original shipping container, a "Re-export Certificate" is not required.

6.3 INSPECTION ON ARRIVAL IN NEW ZEALAND

MPI will check the accompanying documentation on arrival to confirm that it is correct and reconciles with the actual consignment.

MPI requires, with 95% confidence, that not more than 0.5% of the units in a consignment are infested with visually detectable, regulated pests. To achieve this, MPI will sample and inspect 600 units with an acceptance level of zero infested units (or equivalent), from the (homogeneous) lot.

Note:

Because the required response of regulated arthropod pests that have undergone the irradiation treatment is prevention of adult emergence or adult sterility (not mortality), a possibility exists that live (but non-viable) regulated arthropods may be present within a consignment. Refer to section 6.4 for actions undertaken on the interception/detection of pests.

6.4 ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN ON THE INTERCEPTION/DETECTION OF PESTS/CONTAMINANTS

In accordance with ISPM 18. *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure* (section 8.3), MPI does not consider the detection of arthropods at import inspection to indicate treatment failure unless there is other evidence to show that the integrity of the treatment system is inadequate.

If live arthropods are detected the following actions will be undertaken:

- arthropods listed on the regulated lychee pest list (appendix 1)
 - no action but MPI reserves the right for analyses to be conducted on the surviving pest to verify treatment efficacy
- arthropods not listed on the regulated lychee pest list but determined to be regulated
 - no action if the irradiation treatment is deemed to be effective on these pests
 - action if there is insufficient data on efficacy or the treatment is not known to be effective
- Non-regulated arthropods
 - no action.

If regulated pests, extraneous plant material or trash are intercepted/detected with the commodity, or associated packaging, the following actions will be undertaken as appropriate (depending on the pest identified):

- Re-sorting (specific conditions apply) of the consignment
- Reshipment of the consignment
- Destruction of the consignment
- Treatment for those pests where an efficacious treatment is available
- The suspension of trade on the detection of high impact pests for which specific pre-arrival phytosanitary measures are required. Suspension of trade will continue until the cause of the non-compliance has been identified and corrective actions have been implemented to the satisfaction of MPI.

If an organism is intercepted/detected that is not on the pest list (appended to this document), the consignment will be held (or equivalent) until an assessment is undertaken to determine the organism's regulatory status and appropriate measures developed if required.

Consignments that are contaminated with extraneous plant material and/or trash in the 600 unit sample will result in the consignment being held until an assessment has been made in comparison with the risk of importing the part(s) of the plant species concerned.

6.5 BIOSECURITY/QUARANTINE DIRECTIVE

The consignment may be directed to a MPI approved facility for further treatment if required.

6.6 TESTING FOR REGULATED PESTS

MPI may, on the specific request of a chief technical officer, test the consignment for regulated pests.

6.7 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

If regulated pests are not detected, or are successfully treated following interception/detection, biosecurity clearance will be given.

6.8 AUDIT OF OFFSHORE MEASURES

MPI reserves the right to audit all processes that are undertaken offshore, including phytosanitary measures for high impact pests and the irradiation treatment system.

6.9 FEEDBACK ON NON-COMPLIANCE

The Australia NPPO will be informed by an MPI chief technical officer of the interception (and treatment) of any regulated pests, "unlisted" pests, or non-compliance with measures specified in this import health standard.

Appendix 1

Regulated Pest List Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables *Litchi chinensis* from Australia

Scientific name	Organism type	Common name	Measures to prevent introduction	Actions on interception
<i>Amblypelta lutescens</i>	insect	Banana spotting scale	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Amblypelta nitida</i>	insect	Fruit spotting scale	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Bactrocera jarvisi</i>	fruit fly	Jarvis fruit fly	1a & 1b & 3	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera neohumeralis</i>	fruit fly	Lesser Queensland fruit fly	1a & 1b & 3	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera tryoni</i>	fruit fly	Queensland fruit fly	1a & 1b & 3	3 or 4
<i>Ceroplastes rubens</i>	insect	Pink/red wax scale	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Conogethes punctiferalis</i>	Insect	Yellow peach moth	1a & 1b & 4	2a or 4
<i>Cryptophlebia ombrodelta</i>	Insect	Seychelles scale	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Ischnaspis longirostris</i>	insect	Black thread scale	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Nysius vinitor</i>	insect	Rutherglen bug	1a & 1b & 4	2 or 4
<i>Bipolaris hawaiiensis</i>	Fungi		1a & 2a	1 &/or 2
<i>Pestalotiopsis</i> sp.	Fungi		1a & 2a	1 &/or 2

Measures to prevent entry & establishment

No measures as pest non regulated

- 1a Visual inspection of produce and associated packaging
- 1b Consignment must be free from extraneous plant material – pests are associated with other plant parts (e.g., leaves, stems, flowers)
- 2a Undergone appropriate pest control activities
- 2b Pest free area (based on official detection survey)
- 3 Agreed offshore fruit fly treatment
- 4 Approved offshore treatment

Actions on interception

- NA No actions as pest is non regulated
- 0 No action due to low risk pathway
- 1 Removal of trash – pests are associated with other plant parts (e.g., leaves, stems, flowers)
- 2 Treat, reship or destroy
- 2a Treat, reship or destroy. Suspend pathway
- 3 Reship or destroy. Suspend pathway
- 4 No action if irradiation has been certified to be used as a pre-export measure.

Appendix 2 Document history

This document history lists amendments since 2023

Version Date	Section Changed	Change Description
23 April 2009	All	Standard issued
24 July 2023	Part 6.1.3 and Appendix 1	Amended irradiation dose for <i>Conogethes punctiferalis</i>