

**Import Health Standard**  
**Commodity sub-class: Fresh fruit/vegetables**

**Tomato**  
**(*Lycopersicon esculentum*)**

**From**  
**Australia**

**ISSUED**

**Issuance: 17 December 2021**

## Issuance

This consolidated import health standard for fresh tomatoes for human consumption from Australia has been issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 to incorporate amendments made in accordance with section 24B(1)(a) of that Act.

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Date: 17 December 2021

# IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD: FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES

Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) from Australia.

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## Part A. Background

### Scope

This document describes the requirements to be met to enable biosecurity clearance to be given for fresh tomatoes (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) for human consumption imported into New Zealand from Australia.

### Commodity description

The commodity description “tomato” for human consumption is defined as commercially produced loose tomatoes with calyx, or vine tomatoes with calyx and stem, but without leaves, roots or any other plant parts.

### Definitions

The definitions of relevant phytosanitary terms used in this standard are consistent with the terms stated in the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (2007), produced by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), unless the context otherwise requires or the definition is stated below.

*Import health standard* (IHS) - a document issued pursuant to section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 on behalf of the Director General permitting entry to New Zealand of a specific product under certain conditions.

*ISPM* – International standards for phytosanitary measures.

*MPI* - the Ministry for Primary Industries which is responsible for regulatory biosecurity functions.

*Unit* - one tomato fruit.

*Regulated pest* - means those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected.

### Outcome

The agreed pre-shipment phytosanitary measures for specific regulated pests have been undertaken and the tomatoes are free of all regulated pests.

### Performance measure

The specified regulated pests listed in [Part E](#) require specific phytosanitary measures. Pre export visual inspection is required for all regulated pests.

At a 95% confidence level, not more than 0.5% of the units in the consignment are infested (this equates to an acceptance level of zero units infested by regulated pests in a sample size of 600 units).

Verification activities associated with this performance measure are found in [Appendix 1](#).

## Equivalence

Under the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document can be amended by adding an approved equivalent measure, once that measure is proven to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the measures in this document. Equivalence is determined in accordance with ISPM No.24: *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

## Part B. General import requirements for all fresh fruit and vegetables for consumption

The IHS 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand* contains the phytosanitary requirements that must be met for all fresh fruit and vegetable commodities that are allowed to be imported into New Zealand. IHS 152.02 outlines transit requirements, inspections on arrival in New Zealand and actions taken on pest interceptions.

IHS 152.02 can be found at the MPI website (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/ihs/152-02.pdf>).

## Part C. Additional requirements for tomatoes from Australia

### Phytosanitary measures

Australia's National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) is required to undertake specific phytosanitary measures that are effective against Risk group 2 (RG2) regulated pests and Risk group 3 (RG3) fruit fly species of economic significance to New Zealand prior to the commodity arriving in New Zealand. Phytosanitary certification will need to attest to this accordingly.

Risk group 2 regulated pests:

- *Bactrocera musae*
- *Bemisia tabaci*
- *Thrips palmi* (vector)

Risk group 3 regulated pests:

- *Bactrocera cucumis*
- *Bactrocera neohumeralis*
- *Bactrocera tryoni*
- *Ceratitis capitata*

New Zealand MPI requires specific pre-export phytosanitary measures for RG3 regulated pests. NZ MPI currently approves Appendix 2 (pest free area) **or** Appendix 12 (irradiation); these measures are to be carried out in accordance with IHS 152.02 and the bilateral quarantine arrangement.

The application of Appendix 12 (irradiation) must also be carried out in accordance with ISPM 18: *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure* (2011); NZ MPI approves the below irradiation doses:

- RG3 regulated pests with a minimum dose rate of 150 Gy
- Other IHS regulated arthropod pests<sup>1</sup> with a minimum dose rate of 400 Gy

## Inspection of the consignment

Australia's NPPO is required to sample and visually inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all pests specified in the regulated pest list ([Part E](#)), to ensure it meets New Zealand's current import requirements. Where Appendix 12 (irradiation) is the phytosanitary measure to be undertaken, inspection will occur pre or post treatment; inspection will occur after phytosanitary measures have been undertaken for all other measures and treatments (Appendix 2).

Where a regulated arthropod pest is detected on the commodity and Appendix 12 (irradiation) is the intended pre-export phytosanitary treatment, appropriate irradiation dosages must be applied by Australia's NPPO. Alternative approved corrective actions may be conducted (e.g. methyl bromide fumigation), or the fruit will not be exported to New Zealand.

When no regulated pests are detected or corrective actions have taken place and all requirements of the IHS have been met, a phytosanitary certificate will be issued, which should be in accordance with ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary certification system* (2011) and ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary certificates* (2011). If organisms are found which are not listed in the IHS, Australia's NPPO must establish their regulatory status by consulting the MPI "Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities" (BORIC), online at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/pests/registers/boric> or if an organism is not listed in BORIC, Australia's NPPO must contact MPI to establish the regulatory status of the organism.

## Part D. Phytosanitary certification

### Activities required for phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by Australia's NPPO must accompany all tomato consignments exported to New Zealand. The phytosanitary certificate must be in English and must be an original. Bilingual certificates are acceptable as long as English is one of the languages. The phytosanitary certificate also requires the following certification statement as aligned to ISPM 12 (2011);

"This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests."

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

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<sup>1</sup> These regulated pests include those listed on this IHS that are not known to vector diseases.

The tomatoes have:

- (i) been inspected in accordance with official procedures and considered to be free of regulated pests specified by New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

**AND**

- (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those Risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MPI.

**AND**

- (iii) been treated in accordance with Appendix 2 **or** Appendix 12 of the arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries and the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from Australia.

### **Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate**

If satisfied that the pre-shipment phytosanitary measures have been undertaken effectively, Australia's NPPO must confirm this by providing the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate:

The tomatoes in this consignment have:

- (i) been inspected in accordance with official procedures and considered to be free of regulated pests specified by New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

**NOTE:** Compliance with this additional declaration is not necessary for arthropods if the Australian NPPO certifies export of this consignment under Appendix 12; the consignment may contain live (but non-viable) regulated arthropod pests.

**AND**

- (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those Risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MPI.

**AND**

- (iii) been treated in accordance with Appendix 2 **or** Appendix 12 of the arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries and the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from Australia.

**NOTE:** Full details of the irradiation treatment, including dosage, must be included in the "Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment" area of the phytosanitary certificate or as an endorsed attachment to the phytosanitary certificate.

## Part E. Regulated pest list for tomatoes from Australia

Scientific name	Organism type	Common name	Actions on interception
<i>Pythium aphanidermatum</i>	Fungi	cottony leak	2
<i>Atherigona orientalis</i>	Insect	muscid fly	2 or 4
<i>Austroasca viridigrisea</i>	Insect	vegetable leafhopper	2 or 4
<i>Bactrocera cucumis</i>	Insect	cucumber fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera musae</i>	Insect	banana fruit fly	2a or 4
<i>Bactrocera neohumeralis</i>	Insect	lesser Queensland fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera tryoni</i>	Insect	Queensland fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bemisia tabaci</i> (vect.)	Insect	sweet potato whitefly	2a
<i>Ceratitis capitata</i>	Insect	Mediterranean fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Dindymus versicolor</i>	Insect	harlequin bug	2 or 4
<i>Dirioxa pornia</i>	Insect	island fruit fly	2 or 4
<i>Fabriciella australis</i>	Insect	squash bug	2 or 4
<i>Ferrisia virgata</i>	Insect	striped mealybug	2 or 4
<i>Frankliniella schultzei</i> (vect.)	Insect	tomato thrips	2
<i>Gonocephalum carpentariae</i>	Insect	false wireworm	2 or 4
<i>Helicoverpa assulta</i>	Insect	cape gooseberry budworm	2 or 4
<i>Helicoverpa punctigera</i>	Insect	oriental tobacco budworm	2 or 4
<i>Lamprolonchaea brouniana</i>	Insect	metallic-green tomato fly	2 or 4
<i>Leptocoris mitellatus</i>	Insect	leptocoris bug	2 or 4
<i>Myzus persicae</i> (vect.)	Insect	green peach aphid	2
<i>Nysius vinitor</i>	Insect	Rutherglen bug	2 or 4
<i>Orosius argentatus</i> (vect.)	Insect	common brown leafhopper	2
<i>Orosius orientalis</i> (vect.)	Insect	common brown leafhopper	2
<i>Phthorimaea operculella</i> (strain)	Insect	potato tuber moth	2 or 4
<i>Planococcus minor</i>	Insect	Pacific mealybug	2 or 4
<i>Plautia affinis</i>	Insect	green stink bug	2 or 4
<i>Scirtothrips dorsalis</i> (vect.)	Insect	chilli thrips	2
<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>	Insect	beet armyworm	2 or 4
<i>Thrips palmi</i> (vect.)	Insect	palm thrips	2a
<i>Trialeurodes vaporariorum</i> (vect.)	Insect	greenhouse whitefly	2
Tomato big bud phytoplasma	Phytoplasma	-	2
Potato spindle tuber viroid [VO]	Viroid	-	2
Capsicum chlorosis virus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tobacco leaf curl bigeminivirus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tobacco ringspot nepovirus (strain) [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tomato torrado virus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tomato yellow leaf curl virus [VO]	Virus	-	2

### Actions on interception

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Removal of trash – organisms are associated with other plant parts and/or soil. |
| 2  | Treat, resort, reship or destroy.   |
| 2a | Treat, reship or destroy. Suspend pathway.                                      |
| 3  | Reship or destroy. Suspend pathway  |



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Action dependent on pest interception and irradiation dosage certified as the pre-export measure.

Note: The suspension of the pathway could be at the production area, packhouse, state or country level, depending on the significance of the pest interception.

# **Appendix 1: Verification activities on arrival in New Zealand**

## **Verification inspection on arrival in New Zealand**

MPI will inspect documentation on arrival in New Zealand. In addition, MPI may inspect a sample from each lot on arrival in New Zealand to verify requirements of the IHS have been met.

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

As 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 with a consignment.

## **Actions undertaken upon interception of irradiated regulated pests**

In accordance with section 8.3 of ISPM 18 (2011) when mortality is not the required response, the detection of live stages of regulated pests in import inspection should not be considered to represent treatment failure resulting in non-compliance unless evidence exists to indicate that the integrity of the treatment system was inadequate.

MPI reserves the right for an analysis to be conducted on the detected regulated pest to verify treatment efficacy.