

**SPECIFIC COMMODITY
UNDERSTANDING 2
REVISED**

CONDITIONS FOR
EXPORT OF FRUIT FLY HOST FRUITS
FROM AUSTRALIA TO THE PHILIPPINES

Specific Commodity Understanding 2
Issue Number: ____
Date: ____

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SPECIFIC COMMODITY UNDERSTANDING 2 REVISED

This specific commodity of understanding is made under the memorandum of understanding on plant quarantine between the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Department of Agriculture, Republic of the Philippines, and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).

This specific commodity of understanding is an amended version of the specific commodity of understanding 2 (SCU2) that was signed on 22 April 1996. The amendment to the SCU2 is the result of 15 years of research on cold disinfestation in Australia which developed new treatment protocols to address Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata*) and Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*) which are the main pests of concern for the export of fruits to the Philippines. This revised SCU2 will also allow cold disinfestation treatment of fruits to be conducted either in-transit or pre-shipment (=on-shore) in Australia.

CONDITIONS FOR EXPORT OF FRUIT FLY HOST FRUITS FROM AUSTRALIA TO THE PHILIPPINES

Section 1. Scope

This specific commodity of understanding sets the mutually decided plant quarantine conditions applying to the commercial (unaccompanied) export of all fresh fruits that are fruit fly (Family Tephritidae) hosts from Australia to the Philippines.

This includes supplies for military bases, foreign embassies, airlines, shipping companies and duty free shops.

Export of fresh fruit to the Philippines as accompanied (e.g. passenger and crew baggage) consignments will not be permitted. BPI will not issue plant quarantine clearance and DAFF will not issue phytosanitary certificates for such consignments.

Importers must hold a plant quarantine clearance (PQC) for each shipment issued by BPI prior to every importation.

Section 2. Fruit Species

Fruit covered by this specific commodity of understanding include:

- Table grapes
- Apples, pears and other pome fruits
- Peaches, nectarines, plums, apricots, cherries and other stone fruits
- Oranges, lemons, grapefruit and other citrus fruits

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Kiwifruit

Section 3. Quarantine pests

3.1 Insects:

Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*)
Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*)
San Jose Scale (*Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*)
Oriental fruit moth (*Cydia molesta*)
Codling moth (*Cydia pomonella*)

3.2 Diseases:

None

Section 4. Area freedom

4.1 Area-freedom for fruit flies

4.1.1 The State of Tasmania is recognized by BPI as being a fruit fly-free area and therefore Tasmanian produce will not require disinfestation treatment.

4.1.2 Additional fruit fly free area in the future as in paragraph 4.1.1 will be allowed upon approval by BPI after the required evaluation consistent with international standards.

Section 5. Cold disinfestation treatment schedules

5.1 Cold treatment schedules for commodities where improved treatment schedules are available.

| | Queensland fruit fly | | Mediterranean fruit fly | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 1.0°C or below | 3.0°C or below | 1.1°C or below | 2.2°C or below | 3.0°C or below |
| Citrus (all <i>Citrus</i> spp) | | 16 days | 12 days | 16 days | 20 days |
| Table grapes | 12 days | 14 days | 12 days | 16 days | 20 days |
| Cherries | | 14 days | 12 days | 16 days | |
| Summerfruit (peaches, nectarines, plums) | | 14 days | 12 days | 16 days | |

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- 5.2 For all other fruit fly host commodities where no new schedule is available the following temperature schedules shall still be used:

Fruit from Western Australia, will be treated against *Ceratitis capitata* according to the following schedule:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| 10 days at 0°C | or below |
| 11 days at 0.55°C | or below |
| 12 days at 1.1°C | or below |
| 14 days at 1.66°C | or below |
| 16 days at 2.2°C | or below |

Fruit from the southern and eastern mainland States of Australia will be treated against *Bactrocera tryoni* according to the following schedule:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| 13 days at 0°C | or below |
| 14 days at 0.55°C | or below |
| 18 days at 1.1°C | or below |
| 20 days at 1.66°C | or below |
| 22 days at 2.2°C | or below |

For either species

16 days at 1.0°C or below (Hill *et al* 1988. J Econ Entomol 81 (1): 257-260)

Section 6. Cold disinfestation - General

- 6.1 Cold treatment is to be carried out either pre-shipment or in-transit in accordance with the treatment schedules specified in section 5, depending on the kind of fruits to be treated.

6.2 Temperature Monitoring

Temperature monitoring devices will be placed in each consignment to monitor fruit temperature during treatment. Temperature monitoring will be by a multiple point data logger with the thermocouple probes inserted into the fruit pulp.

A minimum of three (3) thermocouple probes required in fruit pulp up to a maximum of 1000 m³. One (1) extra pulp probe per additional 1000 m³. Pulp probes to be uniformly distributed within the stow.

6.3 Calibration of probes



Each probe will be calibrated before treatment using the ice slurry method and an accurate reference thermometer under the supervision of DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers. Results of calibration should be at 0°C.

6.4 Placement of probes

Probes will be installed under the supervision of DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers. All probes are to be inserted at half the height of the pallet or stack where appropriate, this will be at the front, middle and end of the stows (Annex 1).

6.5 Temperature Data

Temperature recording equipment must record the temperature at least every two (2) hours for the duration of the treatment.

6.6 Fruit can be treated as mixed consignments provided the appropriate treatment schedule is applied. At least one (1) thermocouple probe must be placed in the largest fruit variety.

6.7 Packaging

Fruit must be prepacked; it cannot be treated in bins.

6.8 Sealing of shipping containers

Shipping container doors are to be sealed with a secure container seal under the supervision of DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers.

Seal numbers, with corresponding container numbers are to be recorded on phytosanitary certificates.

Section 7. In-transit cold disinfestation treatment

In-transit cold treatment is carried out wherein the fruit is inspected by DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers, loaded into a container, temperature probes calibrated and inserted, and the container doors sealed. The treatment commences as soon as the temperature probes record the required treatment temperature and continues until the required time is achieved. Upon arrival of the consignment in the approved Philippine port of entry, the BPI authorised Plant Quarantine Officer (PQO) will verify if the treatment was successfully completed.

7.1 Pre-cooling of fruits

Fruits must be pre-cooled to the target treatment temperature before loading.

DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers must sample the fruit pulp temperatures during loading.

- 7.2 A copy of the certificate of loading and calibration for cold treatment in self refrigerated containers must be provided for each shipment. This shall indicate the container number, container seal number, recorder serial number, date and results of calibration and sensor placement and pulp temperatures.
- 7.3 Fruits shall be cold treated in self refrigerated containers and shipped via shipping lines that provide in-transit cold treatment service. Carrier to provide temperature data print out for each shipment.
- 7.4 Data from temperature monitors will be downloaded and the printout shall be made available by the carrier to the BPI upon arrival of the shipment in the approved port of entry to verify maintenance of temperatures for the specified period.
- 7.5 The prescribed number of days for cold treatment must be met before arrival of the vessel at the approved Philippine port of entry.

Section 8. Pre-shipment (=on-shore) cold disinfestation treatment

Pre-shipment cold treatment is carried out wherein the treatments are conducted in DAFF-approved cold treatment facilities and completed on-shore in Australia before fruit is loaded into shipping containers or air containers for export. DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers will verify the treatment was successfully completed.

- 8.1 Pre-shipment cold treatment will be conducted in DAFF-approved cold treatment facilities. A list of the facilities shall be submitted by DAFF to the BPI (Annex 2). The BPI will recognize the cold treatment facilities accredited by DAFF.
- 8.2 Treatment rooms or chambers must be secure and locked.
- 8.3 DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers shall review the cold treatment records to ensure the cold treatment has met the treatment requirements as specified in section 5.
- 8.4 Post-treatment security of fruit

The loading of fruit onto shipping containers (stack or loading areas for shipping containers) is to be achieved in one of two ways. Either

- a) fruit will be packed in cartons without holes or with insect proofed holes and open carton seams, taped or



- b) fruit in cartons with open holes will be packed into shipping containers inside cold rooms immediately after treatment or, where this is not possible, the space between the container doorway and the cold room doorway will be covered with an insect proof net.

Section 9. Operational Procedures

- 9.1 The fruit species covered by this specific commodity of understanding are specified in Section 3.
- 9.2 In cases where live quarantine pests are found, such consignment of goods shall be rejected and returned/re-directed, destroyed or quarantine treated. At the same time, the BPI will immediately report it to DAFF and DAFF shall carry out an investigation to identify the reasons and take corrective measures.
- 9.3 Only commercial shipments in the shipping containers, ships' holds or (unaccompanied) air containers are covered by this specific commodity of understanding. Accompanied (e.g. passenger and crew baggage) consignments are not permitted.
- 9.4 DAFF officers or DAFF authorised officers will inspect fruit before cold treatment. The fruit is to be inspected by examination of a 600 fruit sample per inspection lot to give 95% confidence that 0.5% or less fruit fly infested fruit will be present in the lot. Sample cartons are to be selected randomly throughout the inspection unit. All fruits in the sample cartons are to be removed, thoroughly inspected and any suspect fruit cut for examination for fruit fly eggs and larvae.

Security measure for fruits that will undergo pre-shipment cold treatment should be in place to prevent reinfestation during inspection under the supervision of DAFF. Inspection will be conducted in an insect proof space.

- 9.5 DAFF will issue phytosanitary certificates for all shipments for which a Plant Quarantine Clearance (PQC) obtained under section 1 has been verified by DAFF. Phytosanitary certificates will bear the PQC number and:

Additional declarations stating:

- a) "The fruit is free from San Jose scale (*Quadraspidionis perniciosus*), Oriental fruit moth (*Cydia molesta*) and Codling moth (*Cydia pomonella*).

and where exports are sourced from Tasmania

- b) "The consignment was grown and packed in Tasmania".

and where subject to in-transit cold treatment



- c) "The fruits are subject to in-transit cold disinfestation treatment for Queensland fruit flies and Mediterranean fruit flies as agreed between BPI and DAFF"

Where a disinfestation treatment has occurred pre-shipment (=on-shore) in Australia, the treatment details will be recorded in the disinfestation and/or disinfection treatment section of the phytosanitary certificate. The Code of the approved treatment facility or facilities, as listed in Annex 2, recorded under "Additional information" in the "Disinfestation and/or disinfection treatment" section of the form.

- 9.6 Copies of documents and phytosanitary certificates are to be provided by the importer directly to BPI.
- 9.7 The continued use of individual plant quarantine stickers on all cartons or boxes is desirable but not essential.
- 9.8 Suspension of importation covered by this specific commodity of understanding will follow upon detection of live fruit fly infestation (any stages of development) during inspection on arrival in the Philippines.

In no case shall a confiscated consignment be auctioned, redeemed, donated or sold by any government bureau or agency.

Section 10. Suspension of the specific commodity understanding

- 10.1 In case of non-compliance with the requirements of this revised SCU2, or where any live quarantine pest listed in paragraph 3.1 are found at the port of entry, and/or pest outbreak at the source the BPI reserves the right to suspend the program/importation of fresh fruits covered by this revised SCU2.

Section 11. Audit Procedures

11.1 By BPI

In the event of a suspension under section 10, BPI may audit procedures in Australia, prior to a decision being taken on resumption of exports. All BPI costs including per diem allowance will be provided by the exporter or Government of Australia through arrangement with DAFF.

Section 12. Period of Effect



12.1 This specific commodity of understanding will remain in effect while the memorandum of understanding on plant quarantine is in effect.

12.2 This specific commodity of understanding came into effect as from the date of signature by both parties.

Section 13. Amendment

13.1 The conditions specified in this specific commodity of understanding may be amended by mutual decision, at any time.

Signed on the 9th day of July 2013.



PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary of Agriculture
Republic of the Philippines

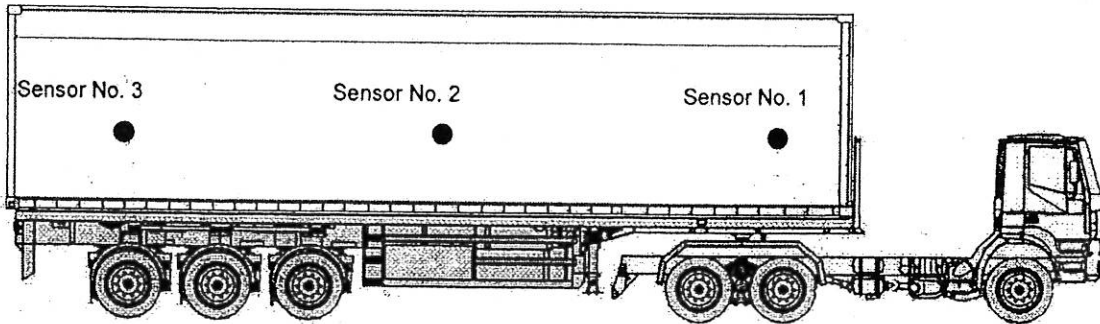


Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Australia

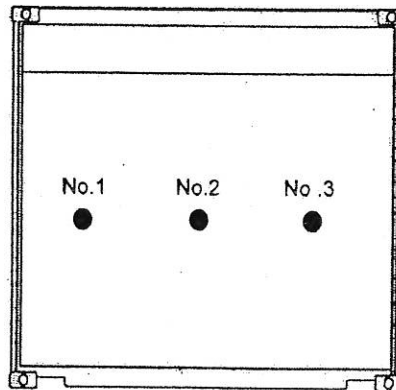


All probes are to be inserted at half the height of the pallet or stack. See below for a representation of required probe placement positions.

SIDE VIEW

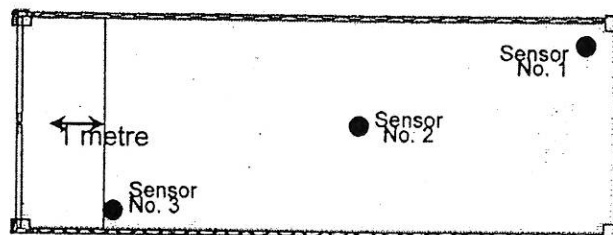


DOOR VIEW



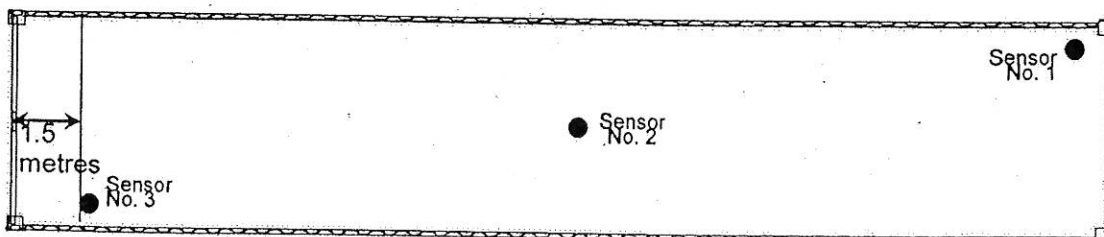
TOP VIEW

6 metre (20 foot) container



TOP VIEW

12 metre (40 foot) container



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Annex 2: List of approved cold treatment facilities

Date: December 06, 2024

| Company name | Location | Establishment number |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| KCS Warehousing & Logistics Solutions | Merrigum, VIC | 1711 |
| Valley Pack Pty Ltd | Mooroopna, VIC | 2136 |
| Luscious Citrus Pty Ltd | Mundubbera, QLD | 2480 |
| Queensland Citrus Pty Ltd | Gayndah, QLD | 2539 |
| J.D.K Management Pty Ltd | Shepparton, VIC | 4445 |
| Seaway Intermodal Pty Ltd | Merbein, VIC | 6468 |
| J & F Lazzara & Sons Pty Ltd | Robinvale, VIC | 2503 |
| CT Freight | Tullamarine, VIC | 1759 |
| Mazza Holdings Pty Ltd | Merbein South, VIC | 2163 |
| J & F Lazzara & Sons Pty Ltd | Robinvale, VIC | 2123 |
| BTM Produce | Robinvale, VIC | 3903 |
| KCS Warehousing & Logistics Solutions Pty Ltd | Kyabram, VIC | 3485 |
| D, T, & C Marciano Magic Pty Ltd | Irymple, VIC | 4239 |
| SJDC Produce Pty Ltd | Redcliffs, VIC | 4742 |
| Perfection Fresh Australia Pty Ltd | Robinvale, VIC | 1916 |
| M & J Lanteri Pty LTD | Euston, NSW | 3198 |
| Lazzara Fruits Pty Ltd | Robinvale, VIC | 1766 |
| The Trustee for Tiger Trust | Irymple, VIC | 1717 |
| Caristo Nominees Pty Ltd | Irymple, VIC | 1792 |
| Grapeland Pty Ltd | Robinvale, VIC | 3906 |