Plant Export Operations

Work Plan

Australian Apple Exports to Taiwan

Version Number  6.1  
Owner  Assistant Secretary, Plant Export Operations
Contact  Director, Horticulture Export Program  
HorticultureExportsProgramACT@agriculture.gov.au
Availability  Internal and External
File No.  2014/46691E
Date Published  November 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE/REV</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REVISION DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Oct 2011</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>PP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
<td>Redraft complete work plan</td>
<td>CH/RP/P1/JL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>Nov 2015</td>
<td>Update and summarise</td>
<td>LH/AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Nov 2016</td>
<td>Update to biosecurity tape requirements</td>
<td>AL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS
INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................................................ 3
1 SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS ........................................................................................................ 4
  1.1 Permitted production areas ............................................................................................................... 4
  1.2 Import permit ................................................................................................................................... 4
  1.3 Registered establishments ............................................................................................................... 4
  1.4 Export approval ............................................................................................................................... 4
  1.5 Quarantine pests ............................................................................................................................. 4
  1.6 Actionable regulated pest list ......................................................................................................... 5
2 GROWER RESPONSIBILITIES .......................................................................................................... 6
  2.1 Audit and export approval .............................................................................................................. 6
  2.2 Registered crop monitors .............................................................................................................. 6
  2.3 Codling moth .................................................................................................................................. 6
3 PACKHOUSE RESPONSIBILITIES ................................................................................................ 8
  3.1 Protocol requirements .................................................................................................................... 8
  3.2 Audit and export approval .............................................................................................................. 8
  3.3 Codling moth pre-screening procedure ......................................................................................... 9
  3.4 Packaging requirements .............................................................................................................. 9
  3.5 Labelling requirements ............................................................................................................... 10
  3.6 Phytosanitary certificates ............................................................................................................ 10
  3.7 Loading ....................................................................................................................................... 10
4 COLD STORAGE FACILITY REQUIREMENTS ........................................................................... 12
  4.1 Export approval ............................................................................................................................ 12
  4.2 Storage and segregation .............................................................................................................. 12
5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES .............. 13
  5.1 Pre-season requirements .............................................................................................................. 13
  5.2 Export inspection ........................................................................................................................ 13
  5.3 Export certification ...................................................................................................................... 15
6 BAPHIQ REQUIREMENTS ............................................................................................................ 16
  6.1 On-arrival inspection ................................................................................................................ 16
  6.2 Suspension of the export program ............................................................................................. 16
INTRODUCTION

All procedures described in this work plan are based on Australian legislative requirements and the quarantine requirements of the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) of Taiwan for the export of apples. The purpose of this work plan is to ensure each consignment meets the requirements for the export of apples from Australia to Taiwan.

**Apples must be grown, packed and inspected in the fruit fly pest free areas of Tasmania or the Riverland (South Australia).**

This work plan is not a standalone document and should be read in conjunction with the current protocols available on the Manual of Importing Country Requirements (MCoR) database and the *Plant Exports Operations Manual* (PEOM). These resources are available through the department’s website (*agriculture.gov.au*).

All costs associated with the delivery of this work plan (i.e. BAPHIQ and/or Department of Agriculture and Water Resources [the department] audit, inspection and verification etc.) are the responsibility of industry.
1 SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

All apples presented for export must comply with the Export Control Act 1982, its subordinate orders and Taiwan’s import requirements.

The department will verify that all requirements specified in the work plan are being complied with.

If the program is suspended by BAPHIQ, the program will remain suspended until BAPHIQ and the department are satisfied the cause of the non-conformity has been identified, and suitable corrective measures have been implemented.

BAPHIQ will suspend this protocol market if apple exports have not occurred over a five year period.

1.1 Permitted production areas

Apples must be grown, packed and inspected in the fruit fly pest free areas (PFA) of Tasmania or the Riverland (South Australia). Apples sourced from other Australian regions are not permitted to be exported to Taiwan.

1.2 Import permit

An import permit is not required to export to Taiwan.

1.3 Registered establishments

All facilities must be an export registered establishment and meet the requirements of the Export Control Act 1982 and its subordinate orders when:

- it is the final establishment inside the PFA, and thereafter
- export inspections are performed by the department, or containers are loaded.

1.4 Export approval

Growers, packhouses and cold storage facilities must be export-approved by the department via Fruit Growers Tasmania (FGT) or Apple and Pear Australia Ltd (APAL). Export application forms must be received by FGT or APAL by the date specified in the Industry Advice Notice (agriculture.gov.au/export/plants-plant-products/ian).

1.5 Quarantine pests

Table 1. Pests of quarantine concern to Taiwan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Bactrocera tryoni</em></td>
<td>Queensland fruit fly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ceratitis capitata</em></td>
<td>Mediterranean fruit fly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cydia pomonella</em></td>
<td>Codling moth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Frankliniella occidentalis</em></td>
<td>Western flower thrips</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.6 Actionable quarantine pest list

BAPHIQ’s list of actionable quarantine pests and diseases is included in *Quarantine requirements for the importation of plants or plant products into the Republic of China*. This document is available on the BAPHIQ website ([www.baphiq.gov.tw](http://www.baphiq.gov.tw) – refer to Laws > Plant protection and quarantine).

If actionable quarantine pests (excluding Mediterranean fruit fly, Queensland fruit fly and codling moth) are detected at export inspection, the consignment will be rejected. Reconditioning and re-inspection for Taiwan may occur.

If actionable quarantine pests are found on arrival in Taiwan, the consignment will be treated with the appropriate quarantine methods to eradicate the pests before importation is permitted. If there is no appropriate treatment method available, the consignment will not be allowed to be imported into Taiwan.
2 GROWER RESPONSIBILITIES

Apples must be grown, packed and inspected in the fruit fly PFA.

2.1 Audit and export approval

Growers must employ orchard hygiene and monitoring programs for quarantine pests. Growers must apply for export approval through FGT or APAL. Application forms must include the following:

- details and location of each orchard and block within the orchard clearly identified (i.e. map)
- size of each orchard/block in hectares (ha).

If the grower export application is complete and accurate, the orchards will progress to audit. The full cost of any audit and associated administration by the department and/or BAPHIQ will be borne by industry.

All orchards and blocks must have clear boundaries on site to assist auditors to clearly identify each block.

Growers who pass audit will be approved for export to Taiwan and issued with an export approval number by the department. Any issues during application or audit may result in delays.

2.1.1 Documentation

Growers are responsible for maintaining all documentation and must provide the following at audit to meet export approval requirements:

- copy of the export application form
- records of pest monitoring and controls, including spray records
- documented system enabling traceability to orchards/blocks
- codling moth trapping data.

2.2 Registered crop monitors

Registered crop monitors (RCMs) must verify orchard hygiene activities and pest monitoring (e.g. pest-trapping and chemical control). To become an RCM, training provided by FGT or APAL must be undertaken. The RCM must be approved by the department. The RCM is required to keep up to date, accurate records of all spraying and monitoring undertaken in export-approved orchards which must be made available to the department and BAPHIQ upon request.

2.3 Codling moth

2.3.1 Trapping

Codling moth traps must be placed evenly throughout the orchard/block in a grid pattern. Pheromone traps must be installed before trees reach full bloom at the following densities:

- if the orchard/block is 8 hectares or less = 1 trap per hectare
- if the orchard/block exceeds 8 hectares = 1 additional trap for every 2 additional hectares.

Monitoring records must be maintained from the time of placement of traps in the orchard.
Traps must be checked at least every two weeks for the detection of codling moth and lures must be renewed in line with manufacturer’s directions.

Growers/RCMs must record the location of each trap on a map (including grid lines) that clearly outlines the orchard/block.

Growers/RCMs need to be aware of any property within 500m that have codling moth host plants, which are not being actively controlled for codling moth. In this case, additional pheromone traps must be established and monitored on the supplying orchard.

If growers opt to use non-pheromone traps, growers must first submit a proposal to the department via email (horticultureexportsprogramACT@agriculture.gov.au) for consideration.

2.3.2 Threshold

If the population density reaches 3 or more moths per trap per week, effective pest management measures must be taken immediately by undertaking a control program with a suitable insecticide.

If the codling moth threshold is exceeded, all trapping records and evidence of management must be forwarded to the department via email (horticultureexportsprogramACT@agriculture.gov.au). Fortnightly trap monitoring must continue and levels must fall back after two checks once the control program has begun.

If the control program is ineffective, BAPHQ will be informed and the orchard/block may be suspended for the remainder of the season.
3 PACKHOUSE RESPONSIBILITIES

Apples must be grown, packed and inspected in the fruit fly PFA.

Apples for export to Taiwan must be sourced from orchards and cold storage facilities approved by the department and BAPHIQ.

3.1 Protocol requirements

Every year before the start of the packing operations, appropriate pest control measures need to be taken to eradicate any live pests inside the packhouse.

Packhouses are also required to have the following:

- skilled people trained in pest identification and to assist in quarantine inspection
- documented procedures outlining how a random and representative sample is taken on the packing line for the 50 and 600 fruit samples
- appropriate equipment for sorting fruit
- sufficient lighting for inspections (600 lux lighting)
- appropriate apparatus and equipment must be available to facilitate inspections, pest identification and other related work.

3.1.1 Trapping

Packhouses are required to place a codling moth pheromone trap outside the facility, and a non-pheromone trap (e.g. bug zapper, sticky trap) inside the facility. Traps are to be placed in areas where potential infestation may occur (e.g. openings close to the nearest orchard and areas where culled fruit are kept).

3.2 Audit and export approval

Packhouses must be approved for export to Taiwan. Participants must apply for export approval through FGT or APAL. If the packhouse and cold storage facility are in the same premises, both may be covered by the same application and export approval number.

If the export application is complete and accurate, the packhouse will progress to audit. The full cost of any audit and associated administration by the department and/or BAPHIQ will be borne by industry.

Packhouses that pass audit will be approved for export to Taiwan and issued with an export approval number by the department. Any issues during application or audit may result in delays.

3.2.1 Documentation

Packhouse managers are responsible for maintaining all documentation and must provide the following at audit to meet export approval:

a. copy of the export application form
b. records of hygiene and pest control
c. list of export-approved orchards (including location details) the packhouse intends to source fruit from
d. grower export application forms
e. documented system enabling traceability to orchards/blocks
f. crop monitoring records including detections of quarantine pests
g. receipt/loading records
h. fresh fruit inspection records (including live/dead codling moth detections).

3.3 Codling moth pre-screening procedure

During the packing process, the sorting of apples shall take place at least twice to remove deformed or damaged fruit, including any apples suspected of codling moth infestation, as follows:

- Before or during the washing process, 50 apples must be sampled and cut to inspect internally for presence of codling moth.
- On the packing line, 600 apples of the lot will be sampled and inspected for codling moth. 50 damaged or deformed apples are to be cut for internal signs of codling moth.

All deformed or damaged fruit must be removed and checked for any signs of codling moth infestation. All records of codling moth detections (including live, or dead, or damaged fruit) must be maintained during the season and presented during audit or upon request. Culled apples must be placed in marked containers and removed from the packhouse everyday.

3.3.1 Threshold

If the following signs of codling moth of detected, the lot will not be permitted for export and the department must be immediately informed via email (horticultureexportsprogramACT@agriculture.gov.au):

- two or more dead codling moths
- apples with visible signs (or internal damage) from codling moth
- one live codling moth.

Should live codling moth be detected, the supplying orchard will be suspended for the remainder of the season. All apples still in Australia from the suspended orchard will not be permitted to be exported to Taiwan.

3.4 Packaging requirements

Clean and new packages must be used. Apples must be packed in one of the following ways:

- in air-tight wrapping
- in closed packing cartons. All holes must be screened with mesh or gauze with maximum openings not exceeding 1.6mm
- packed and transported in whole pallets or trays completely covered with mesh or gauze with maximum openings not exceeding 1.6mm
- transported in secured containers, with the container doors sealed with a container seal. The container number and seal number must be specified on the phytosanitary certificate.
3.5 Labelling requirements

Individual cartons (or pallets if product is palletised) need to be clearly marked with the name and export approval number of the packhouse.

On all packages “TO TAIWAN” must be clearly labelled unless the consignment is to be palletised.

For palletised consignments, pallet cards reading “TO TAIWAN” must be affixed to all four sides of each pallet.

3.6 Phytosanitary certificates

The original phytosanitary certificate endorsed by the department must accompany each consignment.

Consignments must be exported within 14 days from the date of inspection, otherwise they must be re-inspected and issued with a new phytosanitary certificate before being exported.

3.7 Loading

3.7.1 Air freight

Loose stowed but secure cartons are permitted to be transported in air freight containers. Each carton must be inspected, packaged and securely sealed in an export registered establishment (s.1.3) before movement for export.

3.7.2 Sea freight

An authorised officer approved by the department must supervise the loading of all sea freight.

The container must be inspected by the department before loading to ensure pest freedom and that any vents are covered to prevent the entry of pests.

An authorised officer approved by the department must supervise loading and placement of a numbered seal on the container. The approved authorised officer must record the container and seal number. The seal must only be opened by a BAPHIQ officer at the port of arrival in Taiwan.

An authorised officer approved by the department must ensure that green “RELEASED FROM BIOSECURITY CONTROL” or yellow “PASSED QUARANTINE” tape is placed over the seal on the container (Figures 1-4). The tape must be securely applied to withstand shipping and handling until the consignment arrives in Taiwan. Containers that arrive in Taiwan without the “RELEASED FROM BIOSECURITY CONTROL” or “PASSED QUARANTINE” tape over the seal may be delayed or rejected.
Figures 1 and 2. “RELEASED FROM BIOSECURITY CONTROL” and “PASSED QUARANTINE” tape.

Figures 3 and 4. Green “RELEASED FROM BIOSECURITY CONTROL” or yellow “PASSED QUARANTINE” tape must be placed over the container seal.
4 COLD STORAGE FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Export approval

Cold storage facilities must be approved for export to Taiwan. Participants must apply for export approval through FGT or APAL. If the packhouse and cold storage facility are in the same premises, both may be covered by the same application and export approval number.

If the export application is complete and accurate, the cold storage facility may progress to audit. The full cost of any audit and associated administration by the department and/or BAPHIQ will be borne by industry.

Cold storage facilities that pass audit will be approved for export to Taiwan and issued with an export approval number by the department. Any issues during application or audit may result in delays.

4.1.1 Documentation

Facility managers are responsible for maintaining all documentation and must provide the following at audit to meet export approval requirements:

a. copy of the export application form
b. records of hygiene and pest control
c. list of export-approved orchards (including location details) the packhouse intends to source fruit from
d. grower export application forms
e. documented system enabling traceability to orchards/blocks.

4.2 Storage and segregation

Apples stored in the cold storage facility must come from export-approved orchards and packhouses.

If fresh fruit, including apples, from non-approved orchards are to be stored in the same facility, apples from export-approved orchards must be segregated and secured.

Appropriate measures must be in place to identify fruit intended for export to Taiwan.
5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES

The protocol specifies that apples for export to Taiwan must be grown, packed and inspected in the fruit fly PFA.

5.1 Pre-season requirements

5.1.1 Audit

The department and/or BAPHIQ will carry out documented audits each year* to ensure compliance of all growers, packhouses and cold storage facilities.

If the export program is suspended because of interception of a live pest of quarantine concern, or any irregularity, an audit will be conducted by the department and/or BAPHIQ to identify failures in the system. If critical failures are identified, the export entity/entities will be suspended until the system is demonstrated to be fully effective.

The full cost of any audit and associated administration conducted by the department and/or BAPHIQ will be borne by industry.

* BAPHIQ audit may not be necessary if all requirements listed in section 10 of the protocol are met.

5.1.2 Communication with BAPHIQ

The department must provide the following correspondence to BAPHIQ each year:

- invitation to audit* – letter of invitation for BAPHIQ to visit and audit the export program during each export season. Due six weeks before the export season.

- list of grower, packhouse and cold storage facility export approval numbers – to accompany the invitation to audit.

5.2 Export inspection

The purpose of the department's export inspection is to ensure that each consignment meets the Australian legislative requirements and Taiwan's import requirements.

An authorised officer approved by the department will inspect a sample in accordance with the PEOM, consisting of 600 units (one unit = one apple) or 2% of the packed cartons of the total consignment (50 apples per carton inspected).

During inspection any fruit suspected of infestation must be cut open to check for internal infestation or damage. If no suspicious fruit is detected, then at least one fruit from each carton must be cut for verification.

5.2.1 Rejection criteria

Detection of live fruit flies

If live Mediterranean fruit fly or Queensland fruit fly are found during inspection, the entire consignment will be rejected. Reconditioning is not permitted.
Detection of live codling moth

Packhouses are to record any findings of codling moth (live, dead and/or damaged fruit) during the export season, and appropriate actions must be taken (s.3.3).

If any suspected stages of live codling moth are found during export inspection, steps must be immediately taken to identify the pest.

If live codling moth is detected the department and BAPHIQ must be immediately informed via email (horticultureexportsprogramACT@agriculture.gov.au) and the following actions must be taken:

- The consignment will be rejected. Reconditioning is not permitted.
- The supplying orchard will be suspended for the remainder of the season. Any apples from that orchard in Australia or are awaiting shipment will be withdrawn from export to Taiwan.
- The packhouse will be suspended for export to Taiwan.

Apples supplied by orchards other than the suspended orchard and packed by the suspended packhouse may be exported to Taiwan if the following conditions are met:

- The consignment has passed export inspection and the loading date was prior to/on the date of suspension.
- Apples that have passed export inspection and kept in cold storage must be re-inspected the day after the suspension date. If it passes inspection, it must be immediately sealed and loaded for export within three days of the suspension date.

The department will audit the suspended packhouse and investigate the codling moth detection. If the audit finds that the packhouse was not responsible for the codling moth infestation (or if any non-compliances have been rectified), the packhouse will be reinstated for export to Taiwan. BAPHIQ must be notified of this outcome.

Detection of other quarantine pests

If live western flower thrips are detected, the consignment will be rejected. Reconditioning and re-inspection for Taiwan may occur.

Detection of actionable quarantine pests

If actionable quarantine pests (s.1.6; excluding Mediterranean fruit fly, Queensland fruit fly and codling moth) are detected at export inspection, the consignment will be rejected. Reconditioning and re-inspection for Taiwan may occur.

If actionable quarantine pests are found on arrival in Taiwan, the consignment will be treated appropriately to eradicate the pests. If there is no appropriate treatment method available, the consignment will not be allowed to be imported into Taiwan.

5.2.2 Reconditioning

Reconditioning of rejected consignments may be considered. The type of reconditioning is at the exporter's discretion; however, the reconditioning method chosen must suitably address the quarantine risk and biology of the pest.

Reconditioned consignments intended for export to Taiwan must be re-presented for inspection in accordance with the Export Control (Plants and Plant Products) Order 2011. Details of goods being resubmitted must be provided in writing and include corrective measures taken to ensure they meet export requirements.
5.3 Export certification

5.3.1 Phytosanitary certificates

Phytosanitary certificates are required to be completed in accordance with procedures set out in the Phytosanitary Certificate Completion Work Instruction.

All phytosanitary certificates to Taiwan must be processed through EXDOC.

For sea freight shipments, both the container and seal numbers must be recorded on the phytosanitary certificate. Air freight consignments should have the flight number, if known, included on the phytosanitary certificate.

The export-approved packhouse number must be entered into the "shipping marks" section of the EXDOC Request For Permit (RFP) as: PACKHOUSE NO: 0000.

Additional declarations may be found in the MCoR database (micor.agriculture.gov.au/Plants).

The original phytosanitary certificate endorsed by the department must accompany the consignment. Consignments must be exported within 14 days from the date of inspection, otherwise they must be re-inspected and issued with a new phytosanitary certificate before being exported.
6 BAPHIQ REQUIREMENTS

6.1 On-arrival inspection

BAPHIQ will inspect consignments and verify documentation on arrival in Taiwan to ensure that import requirements have been met. A consignment will be held and/or rejected by BAPHIQ if:

- it originates from unapproved orchards or packhouses; or
- it arrives without an original phytosanitary certificate or the document is inaccurate; or
- package labelling (stating “TO TAIWAN”) or taping is incorrect/missing; or
- the security of the package is compromised (i.e. damaged, ripped or opened); or
- a container seal is missing or does not match the number on the phytosanitary certificate; or
- a quarantine pest is detected.

In such cases the consignment will be re-exported, destroyed or treated at the owner’s expense. Treatment is limited to cases where pests can be exterminated effectively.

If quarantine pests are found on inspection, the consignment will be rejected. BAPHIQ will suspend the failed orchard, packhouse, cold storage facility or the entire program until the cause of the infestation is investigated and resolved.

6.2 Suspension of the export program

Should live codling moth be detected three times by BAPHIQ within an export season, all apple exports to Taiwan will be suspended.

Apples from non-suspended packhouses will remain eligible for export to Taiwan if the consignment has received a phytosanitary certificate prior to the suspension date and is loaded within 14 days of the suspension date.

The export program will be audited by the department and/or BAPHIQ. The program will remain suspended until the department and BAPHIQ are satisfied the cause of the non-conformity has been identified, and suitable corrective measures have been implemented.

The full cost of any audit and associated administration conducted by the department and/or BAPHIQ will be borne by industry.

BAPHIQ may suspend the export program at any time if any other pest of quarantine significance is detected in Australian apple imports.