

Strawberry restrictions in response to detection of tomato potato psyllid in Western Australia

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Industry Update 10 May 2017

*Agriculture Victoria recently imposed restrictions on the importation of tomato potato psyllid (TPP) and *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* (CLso) host material. Businesses are reminded that these restrictions also apply to strawberries sourced from any State or Territory that has not issued an area freedom certificate for the pest.*

AREA FREEDOM CERTIFICATES

Area freedom certificates are issued by an officer responsible for agriculture certifying that the State or Territory or part of the State or Territory is known to be free of TPP and CLso.

PROHIBITED COMMODITIES

Strawberry plants, fruits and planting material (plant family Rosaceae) are prohibited entry into Victoria where they have been grown or sourced from areas not covered by an area freedom certificate for TPP and CLso (currently all of Western Australia).

RESTRICTED COMMODITIES

The entry or importation of TPP and CLso host material into Victoria is prohibited, unless either the host material was grown, sourced, or last used on a property covered by an area freedom certificate for TPP and CLso; or where the material has undergone the specified treatment which has been certified via a plant health certificate, assurance certificate or plant health declaration

Host Material means any TPP and CLso host plants, fruits, and any agricultural equipment or packages used in the cultivation, processing, packaging or transport of strawberries.

Host Plant includes a number of plant families, which include any strawberry plant or plant product (e.g. fruit).

MOVEMENT CONDITIONS FOR RESTRICTED COMMODITIES

Where an area freedom certificate has not been issued, the TPP and CLso host material must -

1. in the case of strawberry plants, foliage and fruit of plants; certified as having undergone pre-shipment methyl bromide fumigation and inspection; or
2. in the case of agricultural equipment and used packages, certified as having been cleaned free of soil and organic matter by brushing, high pressure water or steam.

Certification includes a plant health certificate, assurance certificate or plant health declaration.

VERIFICATION ON ARRIVAL

TPP and CLso host material imported into Victoria must be:

1. presented to an Agriculture Victoria Inspector for inspection upon arrival; or
2. presented for verification upon arrival by a person accredited to do so by Agriculture Victoria.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information, please contact your local Agriculture Victoria Plant Standards Officer by telephone on 136 186 or email: market.access@ecodev.vic.gov.au

This document is also available at: www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/plantnotices

