

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR IMPORTERS

Requirements for importing strawberries into Victoria

Queensland fruit fly has been detected in a number of consignments of strawberries sent to an interstate destination. These strawberries were imported under an import condition known as the 'winter window' whereby Strawberries grown in QLD and NSW can enter other states (including Victoria) without a treatment during the winter months.

As a consequence of these detections, Victoria has revoked this 'winter window', **effective 12.01am Tuesday 15 September 2009.**

As a result, all strawberries entering Victoria must be certified as meeting the following import conditions:

Import conditions:

Strawberries may enter Victoria either certified with a Plant Health Certificate by an authorised officer or certified with a Plant Health Assurance Certificate from an accredited business as meeting the conditions below:

Plant Health Certificate certifying:

- Area/state freedom
- A pre-harvest treatment has been applied
- A post-harvest treatment:
 - ◊ Cold Disinfestation and/or
 - ◊ Fumigation has been applied

Plant Health Assurance Certificate certifying:

- ICA-04 Post-harvest fumigation
- ICA-07 Post-harvest cold treatment
- ICA-11 Preharvest treatment
- ICA-23 Area/property Freedom

If you would like to receive this information/publication in an accessible format (such as large print or audio) please call the Customer Service Centre on: 136 186, TTY: 1800 122 969, or email customer.service@dpi.vic.gov.au

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Verification of receipts

Strawberries are a host of Queensland fruit fly and therefore must be verified on arrival into Victoria.

Material can be presented to the Plant Standards Branch at the Melbourne Wholesale Market for verification by DPI, or the importer can be accredited to verify consignments under a compliance agreement with DPI.

Verification involves checking that the consignment has been treated in accordance with the above requirements.

Note:

Penalties apply to any persons/ companies found to be in breach of any of the above import conditions for Victoria.

For further information regarding the above requirements and arrangements please contact the Plant Standards Branch - phone (03) 8371 3500 or fax (03) 9687 6746.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne 3000

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