



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Mr Paul Zalai
Director
Freight and Trade Alliance
68 Booker Avenue
BEACON HILL NSW 2100

Dear Mr Zalai

I am writing to advise you that the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department) has amended its measures to prevent the movement of Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs (*Halyomorpha halys* or BMSB) to Australia, with changes commencing from 17 January 2018.

Further to correspondence of 20 December 2017 from Dean Merrilees (Assistant Secretary, Compliance Controls Branch), there have been a significant number of further detections of BMSB on arrival in Australia in various types of containerised goods arriving from Italy. These detections indicate that BMSB are sheltering in a range of containers and goods outside of those captured by the existing measures.

To manage the risk posed by these goods, all containerised goods shipped via sea cargo from Italy that arrive in Australia between 17 January 2018 and 30 April 2018 will be required to undergo mandatory fumigation or heat treatment onshore.

Exceptions apply to goods treated offshore or that fall within one of the excluded tariff groups:

- Fresh produce (including live plants and nursery stock)
- Live animals
- Food for human consumption
- Seeds for sowing

All other containerised goods arriving from Italy, including those already en route to Australia, will require treatment on arrival using methyl bromide fumigation, unless already treated offshore. Where methyl bromide is not suitable, another approved treatment for BMSB must be applied on arrival.

I request that you inform and alert industry members that are shipping consignments from Italy during the BMSB season to ensure they are aware of these amended measures.

When deconsolidating goods, care should be taken to inspect locations where BMSB may congregate, including crevices or protected areas of shipping containers, inside the goods, or within packaging material for these goods. If the insects are detected operators and staff should follow normal procedures to secure the goods to limit any movement of the insects and notify the department immediately of the detection.

If importers or shippers see something that could have entered Australia with imported goods report it to **See. Secure. Report. Hotline** on 1800 798 636 or complete the online form available at www.agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/report

Further detail about the measures is available at www.agriculture.gov.au/import/before/pests/brown-marmorated-stink-bugs

If you need more information or wish to discuss, please contact Mr Nikolai Tsyganov by telephone on 02 6272 5129 or by email at nikolai.tsyganov@agriculture.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Mitchell', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jessica Mitchell
A/g Assistant Secretary
Compliance Controls Branch
16 January 2018