

132-2021: Commencement of revised import conditions for tomato seed for sowing

23 June 2021

Who does this notice affect?

This notice is of interest to importers (and their customs brokers) of tomato seed for sowing from all countries.

What has changed?

The purpose of this notification is to advise stakeholders that the revised import conditions for tomato seeds for sowing has commenced.

For further information on the revised measures and transitional arrangements, please refer to [Industry Advice Notice 107-2021](#), published 28 May 2021.

The three key changes that have been implemented for tomato seed for sowing are summarised below, effective 23 June 2021:

1. Tomato seeds no longer need to be tested for *Tomato planta macho viroid*.
2. Wild tomato species no longer need to be tested for *Pepino mosaic virus* (PepMV) and pospiviroids associated with tomato seeds. Wild tomato species will still need to be tested for *Tomato brown rugose fruit virus* (ToBRFV) and *Tomato mottle mosaic virus* (ToMMV).
3. The sample size for PepMV testing (ELISA and PCR) has increased from 3,000 to 20,000 seeds per seed lot (or 20% of small seed lots). A transitional arrangement is in place, whereby the department will accept test results for seed lots tested for PepMV prior to 23 June 2021 (using a 3,000 seed sample size), subject to transitional conditions being met.

Background

The revised measures have been implemented in accordance with the [final report on the pest risk analysis for Pepino mosaic virus and pospiviroids associated with tomato seed](#).

Variation of import permits

The department has contacted all affected import permit holders to provide notice of intention to vary existing import permits on 23 June 2021, in accordance with the revised import conditions.

As these permit variations will be initiated by the department, the variation will be performed at no cost to permit holders.

Further information

Enquiries can be directed to 1800 900 090 or via email at imports@agriculture.gov.au (please title the subject line of the email with 'Plant T2 – Tomato seeds').

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