

# Specifications for the Import of Fruit and Vegetable Preparations, Nuts and Other Parts of Plants Australia

**Range of fruit and vegetable preparations: canned fruits and vegetables; frozen fruits and vegetables; concentrated, pickled or marinated fruits and vegetables; jams and jellies; packed in cans, glass jars, flexible pouches, plastic bottles/jars and tetra type composite packaging**

This document describes the import conditions for fruits and vegetables (with or without seeds) that have been:

- Preserved or pickled by an acceptable method as defined below
- Canned or aseptically packaged as defined below

For fruits and vegetables that do not meet the conditions of this case, refer to the ICON case for that commodity.

## **Acceptable methods of preserving/pickling fruits and vegetables:**

- Pickled in salt brine
- Pickled in vinegar
- Pickled in alcohol
- Packaged in sugar syrup
- Cured in salt or sugar
- Glacé, crystallized or infused with in sugar syrup (including but not limited to: mixed peel, cranberries, tropical fruits)
- Canned or bottled in salt/sugar/vinegar/salt brine/alcohol, or oil
- Boiled with sugar until gelled (jam or jelly)

**Canned/aseptically packaged** includes any product that has been adequately commercially heat-treated to render the contents sterile. The product must be shelf-stable for a minimum of six months.

Container types may include:

- Metal cans
- Glass jars or bottles with 'twist off' lids or caps
- Plastic containers that have heat-sealed lids or lids closed by a double seam (excludes those with snap or plastic lids)
- Retort pouches
- Thermoform-fill-seal containers, plastic cans, pouches or bags, or pouches or bag

*In addition to the general requirements and the general labeling requirements, please refer to:*

- Australian and New Zealand standard for fruits and vegetables (see Aust reg no.24)
- Australian and New Zealand standard for jams and jellies (see Aust reg no.25)

### **Commercial imports conditions**

1. An Import Permit is not required.
2. Product must be commercially prepared by one of the methods described above and in clean and new packaging.
3. Sufficient documentation must be available to verify that the goods are commercially prepared as described above. Consignments that do not have sufficient documentation to verify this will be held by AQIS until sufficient documentation is provided.
4. For consignments that do not meet the above conditions refer to ICON for the commodity. An Import Permit may be required from AQIS Canberra or the goods must be re-exported or destroyed. Importers should note that obtaining an Import Permit for goods that have already arrived in Australia may not necessarily facilitate the release of these goods as conditions of import may include government certification that cannot be obtained retrospectively from overseas agencies.

### **Fruit and Vegetables (Frozen) – Listed Countries – for Human Consumption**

The following frozen fruit and vegetables are permitted for human consumption from the countries listed in **Table 1** only. (These goods may be whole, sliced or diced).

**To see the import conditions for frozen fruit or vegetables that are not listed below, please search ICON or contact [Plant Quarantine Operations](#) Canberra for advice.**

If you wish to import a new frozen commodity, or listed frozen fruit or vegetable from a country that is not listed in the table below, please provide details to [Plant Quarantine Operations](#), who will then make an assessment.

Seeds present in frozen fruit and vegetables may be permitted if they are listed in Schedule 5 of the *Quarantine Proclamation 1998* ('permitted seeds' e.g. watermelon) or if they are permitted under other existing ICON cases, such as in [Fruit pulp or flesh - Frozen](#). Where seeds are not permitted in the goods listed below, this has been noted in brackets. Please note: the import requirements for mushrooms are listed in [Mushrooms - Frozen](#).

### **Commercial import**

1. An Import Permit is not required.
2. Produce must be frozen at -18°C for at least 7 consecutive days prior to arrival in Australia.

3. Produce must be commercially prepared and packaged in clean packaging.
4. Produce must be free from quarantine risk material (i.e. soil, leaf trash, stems, bark etc).
5. Each consignment must be accompanied by documentary evidence verifying the freezing process (e.g. Freezing Declaration). Freezing involves preparation, packaging and storing at temperatures at or below -18°C. This also applies to quick-frozen foodstuffs.
6. Consignments meeting the above conditions may be released without an inspection.
7. Goods are subject to random verification inspections to verify the frozen state of the goods and to check for non-invoiced items.
8. If live insects are found during inspection, the consignment will be (i) held pending identification by a DAFF entomologist and treated using an appropriate method, (ii) exported or (iii) destroyed at the importer's expense.
9. If other contaminants such as soil, weed seeds, sticks, or faecal matter are found on inspection, the consignment must be held, and the contaminants must be removed or treated via a method approved by DAFF Biosecurity, if possible. Alternatively, the goods must be exported or destroyed at the importer's expense.
10. Where doubt exists over the frozen state of the produce and/or the identification of the imported goods in the consignment, the matter will be referred to Plant Quarantine Operations, Canberra.

**Table 1. List of frozen fruit and vegetables permitted to be imported into Australia, from the listed countries only.**

Common name of commodity:	Scientific name:	Permitted from (specific countries only)
Acacia pennata leaves	<i>Acacia pennata</i>	All countries
Azadirachta indica	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	All countries
Apricots	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>	China (People's Republic), New Zealand, South Africa (Republic Of), United States of America
Asparagus	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	All countries
Aster indicus	<i>Aster indicus</i>	China (People's Republic)
Aubergine or eggplant	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	Egypt, New Zealand, Turkey, Thailand
Babaco	<i>Caricia pentagona, Caricia pubescens and Caricia stipulata</i>	New Zealand
Balsam pears or bitter gourds	<i>Momordica charantia</i>	New Zealand
Bamboo shoots	<i>Bambusa spp. Dendrocalamus spp. and Phyllostachys spp.</i>	All countries
Beans, green	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i>	All countries

<b>Betulaluminifera</b>	<i>Betula luminifera</i>	Philippines
<b>Brassicacampestris</b>	<i>Brassica campestris</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Breadfruit</b>	<i>Artocarpus altilis</i>	South Pacific Commission countries: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis & Futuna Islands
<b>Broad beans</b>	<i>Vicia faba</i>	Belgium, China (People's Republic) Egypt, New Zealand
<b>Broccoli</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea cultivar (cv) italica</i>	All countries
<b>Brussel sprouts</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea cultivar (cv) gemmifera</i>	All countries
<b>Burdock</b>	<i>Arctium lappa</i>	China (People's Republic), Japan
<b>Cabbages</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea cultivar (cv) capitata</i>	All countries
<b>Cape Gooseberries</b>	<i>Physalis peruviana</i>	All countries
<b>Capsicum</b>	<i>Capsicum spp.</i>	All countries
<b>Cardoon</b>	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	New Zealand
<b>Carrots</b>	<i>Daucus carota</i>	All countries
<b>Cassava and/or Cassava leaves</b>	<i>Manihot esculenta</i>	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, South Pacific Commission countries (including: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis & Futuna Islands)
<b>Cauliflowers</b>	<i>Brassica oleracea cultivar (cv) botrytis</i>	All countries
<b>Celery</b>	<i>Apium graveolens</i>	China (People's Republic), Spain
<b>Cherries (pitted)</b>	<i>Prunus avium</i>	All countries
<b>Cherries (with seeds)</b>	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Netherlands, New Zealand, United States of America
<b>Chick Peas</b>	<i>Cicer arietinum</i>	All countries
<b>Chillies</b>	<i>Capsicum frutescens</i>	All countries
<b>Chinese cabbage</b>	<i>Brassica chinensis</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Choko</b>	<i>Sechium edule</i>	New Zealand
<b>Choy Sum</b>	<i>Brassica campestris</i>	China (People's Republic)

<b>Coconut meat and coconut products.</b> (Halved shell or shell pieces are permitted without husk)	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	All countries
<b>Cow Peas</b>	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>	All countries
<b>Cranberries</b>	<i>Vaccinium oxycoccus</i>	Denmark
<b>Cucumbers or gherkins</b>	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	New Zealand
<b>Dates (with seeds or pitted)</b>	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	All countries
<b>Drumstick leaves</b>	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>	Philippines
<b>English gooseberries</b>	<i>Ribes uva crispa</i>	New Zealand
<b>Feijoa</b>	<i>Acca sellowiana</i>	New Zealand
<b>Fenugreek leaves</b>	<i>Trigonella foenum-graecum</i>	India
<b>Fingerroot or Chinese ginger</b>	<i>Boesenbergia rotunda</i>	Thailand
<b>Galangal (rhizome)</b>	<i>Alpinia galanga</i>	All countries
<b>Garden Peas</b>	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	All countries
<b>Garlic</b>	<i>Allium sativum</i>	All countries
<b>Garlic shoots</b>	<i>Allium sativum</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Globe artichokes</b>	<i>Cynara scolymus</i>	Egypt, New Zealand, United States of America
<b>Goji Berry or Wolfberry</b>	<i>Lycium barbarum</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Gourd</b>	<i>Laganaria vulgarian</i> and <i>Luffa acutangula</i>	India
<b>Gourd</b>	<i>Trichosanthes dioica</i>	Bangladesh
<b>Granadillas</b>	<i>Passiflora quadrangularis</i>	New Zealand
<b>Grape Leaves</b>	<i>Vitis spp.</i>	Egypt
<b>Guava</b>	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Fiji, Thailand
<b>Hawthorne</b>	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Indian baby pumpkin/melon</b>	<i>Citrullus vulgaris</i>	India
<b>Indian Gooseberry</b>	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	India
<b>Island cabbage or bele or pele or aibika</b>	<i>Abelmoschus manihot</i>	South Pacific Commission countries: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis &

		Futuna Islands
<b>Jackfruit (seed only)</b>	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> (syn. <i>Artocarpus integrifolia</i> )	Bangladesh, India
<b>Kencur</b>	<i>Kaempferia galanga</i>	All countries
<b>Kiwano</b>	<i>Cucumis metuliferus</i>	New Zealand
<b>Leeks</b>	<i>Allium porrum</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Lemongrass</b>	<i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>	Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam
<b>Lima beans</b>	<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i>	India
<b>Longan</b>	<i>Dimocarpus longan</i>	China (People's Republic), Thailand, Vietnam
<b>Lotus root</b>	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i>	China, Vietnam
<b>Luffa</b>	<i>Luffa cylindrica</i>	New Zealand
<b>Mango</b>	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	India, Mexico, Philippines, South Africa (Republic Of), Thailand
<b>Marrow, squash or zucchini</b>	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	New Zealand
<b>Mung bean sprouts</b>	<i>Vigna radiata</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Okra</b>	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>	China (People's Republic), Egypt, Thailand, Turkey
<b>Olives</b>	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Spain, New Zealand
<b>Onions</b>	<i>Allium cepa</i>	All countries
<b>Ota</b>	<i>Diplazium esculentum</i> (synonym: <i>Athyrium esculentum</i> )	South Pacific Commission countries: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis & Futuna Islands
<b>Pandanus leaves</b>	<i>Pandanus spp.</i>	All countries
<b>Papaya</b>	<i>Carica papaya</i>	New Zealand
<b>Parkia javanica, beans</b>	<i>Parkia javanica</i>	Malaysia
<b>Passion fruit</b>	<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	Ecuador, Indonesia, New Zealand, Thailand
<b>Peaches (Seedless)</b>	<i>Prunus persica</i> var. <i>persica</i>	Chile, Greece
<b>Pear melons</b>	<i>Solanum muricatum</i>	New Zealand
<b>Pineapples</b>	<i>Anana comosus</i>	China (People's Republic), Thailand
<b>Piper nigrum berries</b>	<i>Piper nigrum</i>	India
<b>Polynesian Chestnuts</b>	<i>Inocarpus fagiferus</i>	Fiji
<b>Pomegranates</b>	<i>Punica granatum</i>	New Zealand
<b>Pumpkins</b>	<i>Cucurbita maxima</i>	China, India, New Zealand

<b>Rhubarb</b>	<i>Rheum rhabarbarum</i>	New Zealand, United States of America
<b>Rock melon</b>	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	New Zealand
<b>Roselle leaves, petals and calyses</b>	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i>	Fiji, Malaysia, Thailand
<b>Seaweed</b>	Red, green and brown algae.	All countries
<b>Snow Peas</b> (under 6mm in diameter only)	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	All Countries
<b>Spinach</b>	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i>	All countries
<b>Spiny bitter cucumber</b>	<i>Momordica cochinchinensis</i>	Bangladesh, Thailand
<b>Spring onions</b>	<i>Allium fistulosum</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Sugar snap peas</b>	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	All countries
<b>Sweet potato</b>	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>	New Zealand, United States of America, Vietnam
<b>Tamarillo or tree tomato</b>	<i>Cyphomandra betacea</i>	New Zealand
<b>Tamarind Fruit</b>	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	Thailand
<b>Tamarind Leaves</b>	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	All countries
<b>Taro leaves</b> (including White Taro or Cocoyam leaves )	<i>Colocasiaspp.</i> <i>Xanthosoma spp.</i>	Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Pitcairn Island, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis & Futuna Islands.
<b>Taro tubers</b>	<i>Colocasia spp.</i>	All countries
<b>Tomatillo</b>	<i>Physalis ixocarpa</i>	New Zealand
<b>Tomatoes</b> (incl. whole, semi-processed or dried/semi-dried)	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>	All countries
<b>Torch ginger, flower buds</b>	<i>Etlingera elatior</i>	Malaysia
<b>Turmeric</b>	<i>Curcuma longa</i>	All countries
<b>Turmeric leaves</b>	<i>Curcuma longa</i>	Malaysia
<b>Wampee</b>	<i>Clausena lansium</i>	New Zealand, United States of America, South Pacific Commission countries (including: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis &

		Futuna Islands)
<b>Water Chestnuts</b>	<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i>	All countries
<b>Watermelons</b>	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	New Zealand
<b>White taro corms</b> (Also called Cocoyam)	<i>Xanthosoma spp.</i>	South Pacific Commission countries: Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati, Republic of; Marshall Islands; Micronesia, Federated States Of; Nauru, Repub.; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; North Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Pitcairn Island; Samoa (American); Samoa (Western); Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga, Kingdom Of; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Wallis & Futuna Islands
<b>Wild rice - stems</b>	<i>Zizania aquatica</i>	China (People's Republic)
<b>Wild strawberries</b>	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Italy
<b>Yams</b>	<i>Dioscorea spp.</i>	All countries
<b>Zucchini</b>	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	Belgium, China (People's Republic), New Zealand, Spain, Turkey

### Imported food safety requirements

1. Commercial consignments of imported food are monitored by AQIS to ensure that the food poses minimal risk to public health. It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that all food they import complies with the requirements of the Australian Food Standards Code (FSC). The FSC is administered by Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) and a copy of the FSC can be found on the [FSANZ website](#).
2. The FSC no longer permits the treatment of food products with ethylene oxide.
3. The FSC prescribes the rates of gamma irradiation with which food products can be treated. In some cases, the treatment rates required for quarantine purposes are greater than those permitted by the FSC.
4. Additional information on imported food inspections is available under [Importing food to Australia](#) on the AQIS website.
5. Importers are advised to ensure proposed quarantine treatments comply with the relevant agencies' requirements.

### AQIS minimum documentary requirements to support assessment of all documentation

All documentation presented to AQIS as part of the import process must meet the requirements of the [Minimum Documentary Requirements Policy](#). These requirements include:

1. Overarching Requirements (e.g. legible, in English, signed, dated, linked to the consignment);
2. Document Format Requirements (e.g. as per nationally accepted practice and standards, or on company letterhead); and
3. Prescribed Information Requirements (e.g. treatment certificates must include a description of the goods/packaging treated)

### **AQIS information requirements to support assessment of non-commodity concerns associated with imported cargo**

All documentation presented to AQIS to assist in determining the level of quarantine risk posed by transportation pathways and packaging must meet the requirements of the [Non-Commodity Information Requirements Policy](#). These requirements address:

1. Container cleanliness
2. Packaging concerns (e.g. presence of timber or prohibited packaging material)
3. Destination concerns (e.g. destined for a rural unpack location)

### **Other useful links**

Wood packaging

<http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/export/wood-packaging>

For more details on food items, ICON is AQIS's import conditions database. Please refer to the [AQIS Food](#) web page for further information.

<http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import/icon-icd>