

4.27 Australian Quarantine Inspection Services (AQIS) requirements

Overview

AQIS is Australia's first line of defense for reducing the risk to the nations agriculture industries and environment against exotic pests and diseases.

AQIS issues import and export permits, is actively involved in passenger and cargo clearance, conducts quarantine inspections and maintains plant and animal quarantine facilities, maintains border controls, develops educational and public awareness material, publishes reports, education materials and carries out inspections of licensed premises which administers quarantine conditions.

AQIS has a number of units which administer Australian quarantine conditions. These units include Biological units, AQIS Plant Programs, AQIS Live Animal Imports, Treatments and Inspections - Import Clearance and Export. AQIS accredits inspectors to carry out inspections of licensed quarantine premises, such as UNE, which administer quarantine conditions.

AQIS regulations are under going restructure and requirements change regularly. AQIS rulings are often made case by case. Staff, researchers and students are advised to check the AQIS website for current information.

www.daff.gov.au/aqis

Import Permits

4.27.1 Permits are required for the importation of a wide range of products including

Algae	All mineral based fertilizers
All Used Machinery	Animal Micro Organisms
Avian Products (Feather/Egg)	Breakfast Cereals/Muesli Bars
Charcoal ,	Sawdust Chestnut Bark
Hoops, Logs,	Oversized Timber not for processing
Chinese Herbal Medicines	Dairy Products
Dead Insects	Dried Plant Material
Eucalyptus sap	Fresh Flowers
Fresh Plant Material	Fruit and Vegetables
Fungi (incl. Ganoderma)	Herbal Teas
Herbarium Specimens	Meat Products
Micro-organisms	Minerals and Ores
Pet Food	Plant Fibre Articles

Plant for in-vitro analysis	Plant Micro Organisms
Plant-based fertiliser	Processed Plant Products
Seeds (incl Grains)	Stockfeed (plant only)
Stockfeed (animal or mixed)	Tyres
Used Animal Equipment	Veterinary Therapeutics
Woodchips,	Wood Shavings

Research activities

- 4.27.2** In Australia there are both state and commonwealth legislative and licensing requirements which may impact on researchers. Ethics approval is required for all research but research involving animals and plant organisms may also require AQIS licensing. Approval must be obtained from OGTR and UNE Institutional Bio-safety Committee if genetically modified organisms are being used. It usually takes a minimum of 90 days for OGTR approval but AQIS quarantine requirements are often 6 months or longer. Researchers must build delay time frames into their research.
- 4.27.3** UNE is a non metropolitan University located in a rural setting. It is crucial that any undertakings conducted by researchers at the University do not adversely impact on our regional ecosystem or prosperity.

UNE specific

- 4.27.4** There is currently no 'Nominated Senior Manager' for AQIS at UNR. To obtain local information about AQIS requirements the UNE contact is Wendy Brown ext 5125 or the OHS Unit ext 3232
- 4.27.5** The three main areas of known quarantine at UNE are AGSS (Leanne Lisle), Animal Science (Wendy Brown) and Archaeology (Peter Grave).
- 4.27.6** Each area is inspected every six months and if one area does not pass then there is potential for ALL areas to be shutdown.

Registration

- 4.27.7** Under the new regulations UNE has been classified as QC 1- the lowest level of risk in regards to the transfer of pests and diseases to the Australian ecosystem.

- 4.27.8** Current (August 2006) license arrangements for individuals and areas which meet all AQIS criteria are as follows:

N0539 The University of New England

School of Rural Science & Agriculture - Agronomy & Soil Science.

Contact - Mrs Leanne Lisle

Plant Nutrition Analytical Facility.

Building W22G Rooms A, 2 & 3.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

5.1 Analytical and Research Laboratories

N1749 The University of New England

School of Human and Environmental Studies - Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology.

Contact - Dr Peter Grave

Building E05 Room Gr12, Building E04 Room Gr11, Building C23 Room 2.07.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

5.1 Analytical and Research Laboratories

N1750 The University of New England

School of Rural Science & Agriculture - Animal Science.

Contact - Dr Wendy Brown

Companion Animal Shelter. Laureldale Research Station (L2).

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

5.2 Biologicals (For Use in Non-laboratory Animals)

- 4.27.9** UNE staff accredited to handle AQIS samples are ;

Mrs Leanne Lisle,

Dr Wendy Brown,

Dr Peter Grave.

No one else is certified to handle quarantine material or facilities.

- 4.27.10** Any staff requested to work with quarantine material must undergo certification prior to under taking any handling of goods.

Requirements for registration

- 4.27.11** Information required is extensive and includes drainage, flood and fire assessments for UNE, ecological and agricultural impact, building codes and permits applicable to each AQIS area on the license, room numbers, floor plans, import procedures, disposal, record keeping and database handling, transport of AQIS goods, contingency plans for spillage/accidents, handling and storage of AQIS goods, waste disposal, accreditation of users, digital photographs of all signage and buildings involved etc,
- 4.27.11** The cost of the Quarantine Approved Premise is \$800 per year plus 2 x \$350 inspections (January and June).

- 4.27.12** Each permit to import is \$160 for a two year period. UNE currently hold two permits to import - 'soil and water' and 'plant material'. Wendy Brown holds a permit under the Masterfoods import license for dog food products.

Classification requirements

- 4.27.13** Operational areas classified as QC1 5.1 require 'Building Code of Australia' certification and must meet the QC1 criteria (similar to existing 5.1).
- 4.27.14** The postal address for all areas is as follows:

Mrs Leanne Lisle
 School of Rural Science & Agriculture - Agronomy & Soil Science,
 Trevenna Road
 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
 ARMIDALE NSW 2351

Signage

- 4.27.14** Part of the new requirements is to erect signs (internal and external) at all areas where quarantine samples are stored, extracted and analysed.

AQIS approved signs are located at the following -

Grinding/storage shed at VHR
 Incinerator at VHR
 Plant Nutrition Lab at AGSS
 2 rooms in Archaeology
 LC-MS room in Chemistry

- 4.27.15** The new arrangements provide each operational area with their own registration details and individual registration certificates which are held in Leanne Lisle's Office.

List of inspections

	Inspection date	Location	Inspector	Result
	13th July 2006	N1750	Mr Michael Halloran	Pass
	13th July 2006	N1749	Mr Michael Halloran	Pass
	13th July 2006	N0537	Mr Michael Halloran	Pass

4.27 AQIS

	11 th April, 2007	N1750	Mr Gennaro Cirillo	Pass
	11 th April 2007	N1749	Mr Gennaro Cirillo	Pass
	11 th April 2007	N0537	Mr Gennaro Cirillo	Pass

Version 9/1/2012