



June
2020

Seasonal measures for the 2020–21 Brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) risk season



In response to the rapid expansion of BMSB throughout Europe and North America, the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (the department) has retained the seasonal measures to manage the risk of BMSB arriving in Australia during the 2020–21 BMSB risk season.

For the 2020–21 BMSB risk season, measures will apply to:

- certain goods manufactured in, or shipped from target risk countries, and/or
- vessels that berth at, load or tranship from target risk countries, from **1 September 2020** and that arrive in Australian territory by **31 May 2021** (inclusive).

You must comply with these measures for vessels and goods during the BMSB risk season.

Target risk countries

The following countries have been categorised as target risk:

Albania	Georgia	Portugal
Andorra	Germany	Romania
Armenia	Greece	Russia
Austria	Hungary	Serbia
Azerbaijan	Italy	Slovakia
Belgium	Kosovo	Slovenia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Liechtenstein	Spain
Bulgaria	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Canada	Montenegro	Turkey
Croatia	Moldova	Ukraine
Czechia	Netherlands	United States of America
France	North Macedonia	

Japan (heightened vessel surveillance will be the only measure applied).

In addition, the department continues to review the changing risk status of BMSB and will also be undertaking random onshore inspections on goods from other emerging risk countries to verify pest absence in goods.

The following countries have been identified as emerging risk countries for the 2020–21 BMSB risk season and may be selected for a random onshore inspection: **Belarus, Denmark, Ireland, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, Kazakhstan and Chile.**

We are also monitoring other countries through a lower rate of random inspections. These include all remaining **European countries, Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan, Argentina, South Africa and Uruguay.**

Vessel surveillance and inspections

All roll-on roll-off (ro-ro) vessels will be subject to heightened vessel surveillance during the season.

All ro-ro vessels that berth at, load or tranship in target risk countries from 1 September 2020 and that arrive in Australian territory by 31 May 2021 (inclusive) will be required to:

- conduct self-inspections and respond to specific questions as part of the pre-arrival reporting requirements, and
- undergo a mandatory seasonal pest inspection on arrival in Australia.

Vessel Seasonal Pest Scheme

The Vessel Seasonal Pest Scheme (VSPS) is an alternative vessel clearance pathway for ro-ro vessels.

- Only ro-ro vessels that are eligible for the VSPS and have detected no insects on board will be exempt from the mandatory seasonal pest inspection.
- The department will continue to perform inspections on vessels for other biosecurity reasons unrelated to BMSB. The nature of these inspections will vary based on the biosecurity risk being managed.

Goods

A full list of the tariffs for the 2020–21 season is available at agriculture.gov.au/bmsb.

- Target high risk goods will require mandatory treatment
- Target risk goods will not require mandatory treatment
- All target high risk and target risk goods will be subject to increased onshore intervention through random inspection.

Treatment requirements

Mandatory offshore treatment

Break bulk consignments

Mandatory offshore treatment of target high risk goods shipped as break bulk cargo, including goods shipped in open top containers or on flat rack containers, will be required. Untreated break bulk will be denied discharge and be directed for export on arrival.

Target high risk goods requiring mandatory offshore treatment that arrive untreated, or treated by an unapproved treatment provider in a target risk country, will be directed for export on arrival.

Mandatory offshore or onshore treatment

Containerised cargo shipped as LCL and FAK containers

Mandatory offshore and onshore treatment of target high risk goods shipped in sealed six hard sided containers will be required. LCL and FAK containers with target high risk goods will be managed at the container level for BMSB risk prior to deconsolidation.

Containers treated offshore will be subject to early reporting to reduce delays at the wharf and will be permitted to deconsolidate. Containers seeking onshore treatment will also be subject to early reporting and will be permitted to move to an Approved Arrangement site for treatment at the container level (deconsolidation or segregation of goods will not be permitted).

Containerised cargo (other than LCL and FAK containers)

Mandatory offshore or onshore treatment of target high risk goods shipped in sealed six hard sided containers will be required. Deconsolidation or segregation of goods will not be permitted.

Containers must be packed in a manner that will enable effective onshore treatment (where required) to avoid possible export of goods.

Treatment options

The approved treatment options for BMSB risk are heat treatment, methyl bromide fumigation and sulfuryl fluoride fumigation. For information on approved treatment rates, visit agriculture.gov.au/bmsb.

Offshore BMSB Treatment Providers Scheme

Offshore treatment providers in target risk countries must first register and be approved by the department. Existing treatment providers will also need to re-register with the department. Goods that are treated by a treatment provider in a target risk country that is not registered with the scheme will be directed for export or onshore treatment (if permitted).

Safeguarding Arrangements Scheme

As part of the 2020–21 BMSB seasonal measures, a Safeguarding Arrangements Scheme (the scheme) is available to industry stakeholders/importers. The scheme provides an alternate clearance pathway for goods imported as sea cargo during the BMSB risk season. It also provides recognition of the ability of approved participants to manage seasonal hitchhiker pest risk offshore, from the point of manufacture to the point of embarkation in line with eligibility criteria. For more information on the scheme, visit agriculture.gov.au/safeguarding.

Further information

For full details on the 2020–21 BMSB seasonal measures and for information on how to prepare for import during the BMSB season, visit agriculture.gov.au/bmsb.

Any questions relating to the policy for seasonal pests can be emailed to spp@awe.gov.au.



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