

# THE KHAPRA BEETLE

## FACT SHEET

URGENT ACTIONS AND CHANGES IMPORTERS NEED TO BE AWARE OF

By International Cargo Express

The Khapra Beetle is a pest that poses a major biosecurity risk to Australian grains and the economy by feeding directly on stored grain and dry foodstuffs and infesting goods with larval skins and hairs that are a health risk and difficult to remove from transport containers and vessels. The beetle typically enters Australia by hitchhiking in food and grain imports and in cracks and crevices within shipping containers and packaging.

Currently listed as number two on Australia's list of National Priority Plant Pests, the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has established strict measures for eligible cargo entering Australia during the season.



*Larvae (left) and beetle of Khapra beetle (right) on grains*

## NEW ACTIONS TO PROTECT AGAINST THE KHAPRA BEETLE

Unaccompanied personal effects or low-value sea and air freight (under \$1,000) arriving in Australia that contain any of these high-risk plant products will be immediately destroyed.



Rice



Pulses



Wheat



Powdered herbs,  
spices & grains



Nuts



Beans



Dried chilli



Seeds

All containers from target risk containers will be required to be treated offshore prior to loading the goods – **for goods shipped from 12 April 2021.**

These 'target risk' containers are essentially all Full Container Load and Full Container Consolidated (FCL/FCX) containers, where:

“high-risk plant products” are placed into a container in a “target risk country” (**Target Risk Container 1**); or

Other goods are packed into the container in a risk country as above and will be unpacked in rural grain growing area of Australia (**Target Risk Container 2**).

Any target risk containers arriving without treatment will be re-exported.

## TARGET RISK COUNTRIES



## MEASURES FOR RURAL NUT-GROWING AREAS

As of the 15th of December 2021, the department has introduced the extension of mandatory offshore treatment for any FLC/FCX containers which are to be unpacked in **rural nut-growing areas** in Australia. Additional postcodes to be included for rural nut growing areas of Australia include 4569, 4517, 4518, 4858, 4560.

To satisfy the Department's new requirements, target risk containers must:

- Receive treatment offshore using an approved treatment option (which includes insecticide spray, heat treatment and methyl bromide fumigation – we outline these treatments in detail below).
- Receive treatment within 21 days before export; and
- Be accompanied by the right certification

Note that treatment must be done prior to packing the goods (unless you are using methyl bromide fumigation as your treatment method).



# MANDATORY MEASURES TO BRING CARGO INTO AUSTRALIA

## TARGET RISK SEA CONTAINERS

All target risk containers exported after 12 April 2021 must be treated and accompanied by a valid treatment certificate. To satisfy the Department's new requirements, target risk containers must:

- Receive treatment offshore using an approved treatment option (which includes insecticide spray, heat treatment and methyl bromide fumigation – we outline these treatments in detail below).
- Receive treatment within 21 days before export; and
- Be accompanied by the right certification

Note that treatment must be done prior to packing the goods (unless you are using methyl bromide fumigation as your treatment method).

To demonstrate that a container has been treated within 21 days prior to export, a [sealing declaration](#) may be required.

These rules commenced on 12 April 2021 for Target Risk Container 1 (for containers exported on or after 12 April 2021).



## CARGO & CONTAINER TREATMENT OPTIONS

FCL and FCX Containers of target-risk plant products loaded in a Khapra Beetle target risk country must be treated offshore prior to shipping with one of the approved treatments.

- **Heat treatment**

Prior to loading the goods, the container must be heat treated at 60°C or higher for a minimum of 3 hours. The treatment must be conducted in accordance with the Heat Treatment Methodology.

- **Methyl bromide fumigation (recommended by The Department) –**

There are a range of options to fumigate your container offshore using this method. Prior to loading the goods, the container must be fumigated with either:

- a dose of 80 g/m<sup>3</sup> or above, at 21°C or above, for a minimum of 48 hours, with an end point reading of 20 g/m<sup>3</sup> or above; or
- a dose of 88 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more, at 16°C or more, for a minimum of 48 hours, with an end point reading of 22 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more; or
- a dose of 96 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more, at 11°C or more, for a minimum of 48 hours, with an end point reading of 24 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more; or
- a dose of 104 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more, at 10°C or more, for a minimum of 48 hours, with an end point reading of 26 g/m<sup>3</sup> or more.

The fumigation must be conducted in a sheeted enclosure or in a chamber, with both doors open and with an additional concentration sampling line put under the container. It must also be in accordance with the Methyl Bromide Fumigation Methodology, and by an approved provider. For treatment with Methyl Bromide, container and goods can be treated at the same time (after the goods are packed in to the container).

- **Insecticide spray**

Prior to loading the goods, the container must be sprayed with a suspension concentrate formulated insecticide product. It must contain the active constituent deltamethrin. Both the interior and exterior of the floor, the interior and exterior lower portion of the three walls and doors up to 11m, as well as the door seals. Note that using insecticide spray with the active constituent deltamethrin is a provisional measure, and the Department strongly encourages the industry to use methyl bromide fumigation or heat treatment over an insecticide spray. You can read more about the use of insecticide spray as a treatment option [here](#).

# PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

As of April 28th, 2022, the Department implemented Phases 4 and 5 of the Khapra Beetle measures.

Phase 4 will introduce revised phytosanitary certification requirements for other-risk plant products exported from all countries. While Phase 5 will introduce phytosanitary certification requirements for seeds for sowing exported from all countries and arriving via all arrival modes.

A summary of the new requirements:

Phase	Product	Country of Export	Requirements
Phase 4	<a href="#">Other-risk plant products</a>	All countries	Inspected offshore by government official of exporting country; AND certified as being free from any listed species of Trogoderma (whether live, dead or exuviae) in Australia's list of Trogoderma species of biosecurity concern.  AND
Phase 5	Seeds for sowing (excluded are <a href="#">high risk plant products</a> & other risk plant products)	All countries	are required to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate that includes the following additional declaration:  "Representative samples were inspected and found free from evidence of any species of Trogoderma (whether live, dead or exuviae) in Australia's list of Trogoderma species of biosecurity concern".

Failure to comply with the above requirements set by the Department may result in your goods/ the container being exported on its arrival.

If however, your products have been packed in a khapra beetle target risk country into an FCL/FCX sea container and is expected to be unpacked in an Australian regional grain growing area, the sea container itself is required to be treated.

## WHAT IMPORTERS SHOULD DO

- Be vigilant. Check your stored grain, storage facilities, pantry, and any shipping containers frequently for the presence of pests and damage. Good hygiene and pest management play an important role in limiting infestation, including the removal of spillages and residues and the sealing of any cracks or crevices where pests could hide.
- Contain and report any sign of infestation to the department by calling the *See. Secure. Report.* hotline on 1800 798 636 or complete the online form [here](#).
- Engage your freight forwarder to ensure your cargo is compliant with all documentation and fumigation requirements. ICE can arrange treatment with government-approved providers.
- Our experienced staff are closely monitoring the latest updates and attending our Government's official information sessions. Stay up to date with the latest announcements on the Khapra Beetle's measures and restrictions by checking [the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment website](#).



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## APPENDIX

### HIGH-RISK PLANT PRODUCTS

Product	Tariff item code
Rice ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> )	1209, 1006
Chickpeas ( <i>Cicer arietinum</i> )	1209, 0713, 1106
Cucurbit seed ( <i>Cucurbita</i> , <i>Cucumis</i> , <i>Citrullus</i> spp.)	1209, 1207
Cumin seed ( <i>Cuminum cyminum</i> )	1209, 0909
Safflower seed ( <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> )	1209, 1207
Bean seed ( <i>Phaseolus</i> spp.)	1209, 0713, 1106
Soybean ( <i>Glycine max</i> )	1209, 1201
Mung beans, cowpeas ( <i>Vigna</i> spp.)	1209, 0713, 1106
Lentils ( <i>Lens culinaris</i> )	1209, 0713, 1106
Wheat ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> )	1209, 1001, 1104, 1103, 1101
Coriander seed ( <i>Coriandrum sativum</i> )	1209, 0909
Celery seed ( <i>Apium graveolens</i> )	1209
Peanuts ( <i>Arachis hypogaea</i> )	1209, 1202, 0713, 1106
Dried chillies/capsicum ( <i>Capsicum</i> spp.)	0904
Faba bean ( <i>Vicia faba</i> )	1209, 0713, 1106
Pigeon Pea ( <i>Cajanus cajan</i> )	1209, 0713, 1106
Pea seed ( <i>Pisum sativum</i> )	1209, 0713, 1106
Fennel seed ( <i>Foeniculum</i> spp.)	1209, 0909

The following exclusions apply:

- Goods that are thermally processed that are commercially manufactured and packaged such as retorted, blanched, roasted, fried, par-boiled, boiled, puffed, malted or pasteurised goods.
- Goods that are chemically processed and preserved such as with a Formalin Propionic Acid fixative, Formalin Acetic acid alcohol, Carnoy's fixative or ethanol.
- Fresh vegetables.
- Commercially manufactured frozen or freeze-dried food (perishable foodstuffs only)
- Frozen plant samples for plant research (including through the use of liquid nitrogen and freeze drying).
- Oils derived from vegetables or seed.
- Preserved or pickled (such as in vinegar or alcohol).
- Goods that have been refined or extracted to obtain specific components from plant-based raw materials. Examples include starch, lecithin, protein, cellulose, sugars and pigments.