

BIOSECURITY ACT 2019

Section 191

GENERAL BIOSECURITY DIRECTION (EMERGENCY)

I, Susanna Driessen, being and as the Chief Plant Protection Officer under the *Biosecurity Act 2019* ('the Act')¹, acting pursuant to section 191 of the Act, and being satisfied that a biosecurity emergency is occurring, has occurred or is imminent, and it is necessary to assess, prevent, control or manage the biosecurity emergency, hereby issue a general biosecurity direction, the requirements of which are set out in Schedule 1 below.

SCHEDULE 1

Part 1 - definitions

1. For the purposes of this general biosecurity direction, the following terms are defined:

interstate authorised officer means an authorised officer or inspector (however so described) who may issue a document or certificate under a corresponding law that certifies a matter for which a biosecurity certificate can be issued under the Act;

ToBRFV means tomato brown rugose fruit virus;

ToBRFV carrier means:

- (a) a ToBRFV host plant;
- (b) fruit of a ToBRFV host plant; and
- (c) ToBRFV host plant seed;

ToBRFV host plant means any of the following plant species:

- (a) *Solanum lycopersicum* (tomato plants) and any hybrids of the species; and
- (b) *Capsicum spp.* (including capsicum and chilli plants).

Part 2 – persons to whom this General Biosecurity Direction (Emergency) applies

2. This general biosecurity direction applies to any person who imports or causes the importation of any ToBRFV carrier into Tasmania.

Part 3 – conditions

3. A person may import a ToBRFV carrier if:
 - (a) that ToBRFV carrier was grown or sourced from a premises located in:

¹ All terms used in this instrument that are defined in the Act, regulations made under the Act, or the Tasmanian Biosecurity Compendium have the same meaning as in the Act, regulations or the Compendium.

- i. a State or Territory that is free from ToBRFV as evidenced by a current Area Freedom Certificate accepted by the Chief Plant Protection Officer of Tasmania; or
 - ii. part of a State or Territory that is free from ToBRFV as evidenced by a current Area Freedom Certificate (partial area freedom) accepted by the Chief Plant Protection Officer of Tasmania;
 - and
 - (b) the ToBRFV carrier is compliant with all other requirements of the Plant Biosecurity Manual Tasmania.
4. A person must not import a ToBRFV carrier from a premises known to be infected with ToBRFV (hereinafter referred to as a 'known infected premises').
 5. A person must not import a ToBRFV carrier from a premises that may reasonably be suspected of being infected with ToBRFV (hereinafter referred to as a 'suspect premises').
 6. A person must not import a ToBRFV carrier from a premises linked to a known infected premises or suspect premises except under individual permit subject to conditions specified by the Chief Plant Protection Officer of Tasmania.
 7. A person may import a ToBRFV carrier from a premises that is not linked to a known infected premises or suspect premises in a State or Territory where an Area Freedom Certificate is not currently in force so long as the ToBRFV carrier:
 - (a) is clearly labelled or otherwise identified to show the place of origin (grown and packed)²; and
 - (b) is compliant with all other requirements of the Plant Biosecurity Manual Tasmania
 8. A person may import diagnostics samples of any ToBRFV carrier from any premises, regardless of ToBRFV status, directly to the Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (Biosecurity Tasmania) Approved Arrangement laboratory (T1280) at 13 St Johns Avenue, New Town Tasmania 7008 subject to the following:
 - (a) Samples must be packed for secure transport with three layers. The first layer must be contained in suitable air-tight containers and be further protected by a second layer of insulation (e.g double bagging using zip-lock bags). The double bagged sample must then be placed in a durable outer container as the third layer (Express Post Satchels are considered acceptable as the third outer layer); and
 - (b) The package containing the sample(s) must be clearly labelled as follows:
 - i. Name, address and contact number of the sender;
 - ii. Clearly state 'Diagnostic sample imported under ToBRFV General Biosecurity Direction (Emergency)';
 - iii. Description of the contents;

² The name and address supplied must allow Biosecurity Tasmania to readily identify the premises at which the ToBRFV carrier was grown and packed to verify against a list of known infected premises, suspect premises and linked premises.

- iv. Name and contact number of package recipient at NRE Tas laboratories; and
 - (c) A *Notice of Intention to Import a Plant or Plant Product* (NoI) must be submitted to Biosecurity Tasmania not less than 24 hours prior to package arrival in Tasmania³, with a copy of this General Biosecurity Direction (Emergency) attached.
9. For the purposes of this direction, a premises is linked to a known infected premises or suspect premises if:
 - (a) the premises has received ToBRFV carriers from a known infected premises or suspect premises; or
 - (b) the premises contains ToBRFV carriers and adjoins a known infected premises or suspect premises; or
 - (c) irrigation water that is used at a known infected premises or suspect premises is subsequently used by the premises and/or water sources are shared with a known infected premises or suspect premises such that ToBRFV could move from that premises to the linked premises; or
 - (d) there is no control over the movement of people and/or horticultural equipment and machinery, including packing equipment and machinery, between a known infected premises or suspect premises and the linked premises.
10. A premises ceases to be linked to a known infected premises or suspect premises if:
 - (a) in the case of a linked premises that adjoins a known infected premises or suspect premises, an interstate authorised officer has certified:
 - i. the known infected premises or suspect premises to be free of ToBRFV; and
 - ii. the linked premises to be free of ToBRFV;
 - (b) in the case of a linked premises that does not adjoin a known infected premises or suspect premises, an interstate authorised officer has certified the linked premises to be free of ToBRFV.
11. A premises ceases to be a suspect premises if:
 - (a) an interstate authorised officer has certified the premises to be free of ToBRFV; and
 - (b) that premises is not linked to a known infested premises or any other suspect premises.

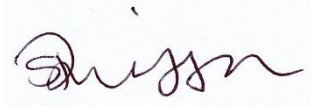
Part 4 – commencement and expiry of this General Biosecurity Direction (Emergency)

12. This general biosecurity direction replaces the general biosecurity direction EGBD_CPPO_01/10/2024 issued on 1 October 2024 and takes effect on the 5th day

³ Email to Biosecurity Tasmania – noi.biosecurity@nre.tas.gov.au and plantdiagnosticservices@nre.tas.gov.au

of October 2024, and remains in force for a period of 6 months unless revoked sooner.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susanna Driessen', is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Susanna Driessen
Chief Plant Protection Officer
Biosecurity Tasmania
Date: 3 October 2024