# Frequently asked questions

**Question:** **Why was this risk assessment necessary?**

Answer**:** In response to submissions from several members of the public (the applicants) with specific commercial interests in developing Australian snail farming (heliciculture).

**Question: Is *Cornu aspersum* the same as the common garden snail?**

Answer: *Cornu aspersum* is also known as the common garden snail and has been established in Australia for 120 years. Australian snail farmers want to import larger and more commercially viable common garden snails from Europe.

**Question: Will the snails that are bred from imported stock be consumed in Australia?**

Answer: Applicants wish to develop breeding lines of C. aspersum snails for commercial use, to expand the Australian heliciculture industry, and intend to supply snails for human consumption domestically and overseas.

**Question: Will the snails be a risk to plant health?**

Answer: Garden snails (C. aspersum) are on the list of animal specimens considered to be suitable for live import into Australia (<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/wildlife-trade/live-import-list>). From a plant health perspective, any impacts of imported common garden snails are likely to be commensurate with, or less than, the common garden snails already present in Australia.

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