**Transcript**

12 August 2025, 03:02am

 **Ng, Jason** started transcription

 **Hollis, Claire** 0:03
Questions or you want any follow up afterwards and want to know what was said. You can then access it after today's presentation and help keep us on track. We'll have AQ and a session at the end of the presentation. However, please do feel free to put any questions as you think of them into the chat.
And we'll get to that at the end. If you are experiencing any technical issues, feel free to pop a message into the chat and we'll do our best to assist you. So for those who don't know me, I'm part of the plant health policy branch in depth.
And we have a focus on plant health within Australia as a national focal point. We work to the Australian Chief Plant Protection Officer who is the Australian governments representative and advisor on plant health issues of national and international interest.

 **Laurie Dowling** 0:48
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 0:54
And one of our responsibilities is to work closely with domestic stakeholders, so state and territory, governments and industries to design and implement plant health policies that align with international standards but that are really fit for the Australian context, as this helps support Australia's plant health status.

 **Jenny Treeby** 1:04
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 1:14
And it also goes towards facilitating safe trade. So today's webinar, we're going to be focusing on two policies that have been drafted and that's the national policy for plant, plant for pest freedom programmes and pest absence.

 **Jenny Treeby** 1:15
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 1:30
And also the national policy for regulated non quarantine pests, these policies have been developed to guide how we implement these pest management programmes in a nationally consistent approach to improve bio security outcomes aligned with international requirements and also to facilitate trade.
So bit of a quick outline for today. First I'm going to apologise. These are very text heavy slides. We don't have these policies yet. So many of the programmes that we'll be talking about haven't yet been implemented. So I don't have nice shiny pictures of them in practise.
So First off, apologies, they're text heavy slides because I couldn't show pictures of, you know, a certain pest or a certain production system because none of them are currently being managed under these policies in a consistent approach.
So we'll be going through today a couple of topics. We'll be starting by looking at what the policies are and why we're developing them. I'll be discussing the differences between the different policies as pest management options and how they can support by security, risk management and maintain trade.
I'll unpack the differences between the different policies and really the key conceptual issues and considerations for implementing them, and also the roles and responsibilities. Most importantly, we'll provide an opportunity for feedback and I'll show you how you can provide feedback because.
We're developing these policies to be implemented in our context, and your input is absolutely vital to ensure that they're practical and efficient and they align with your needs and with our international requirements. So we really want to make sure that they are fit for.

 **Jenny Treeby** 3:13
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 3:28
For the purpose, and that any barriers that you see in them for implementation, we can look at and potentially figure out how to address and also to make sure that they're as clear as government policy documents can be.
So why are we developing these policies? We're all familiar. Australia has lots of endemic and established pests that result in increased costs to growers to manage. They reduce our plant health and they impact our ability to trade domestically and internationally. And yet, despite all of these pests.
We lack nationally agreed policies on how we manage these tests in a consistent and risk based approach that aligns with international standards. We do implement some of these concepts, but we don't have an overarching framework that's agreed to, so these policies fill part of that gap.
These policies are intended to address issues that are affecting our bio, security and trade outcomes. If the pest management programmes are not well implemented, the pests may spread more widely affecting crop quality, increasing pest management costs and also risking our market access and trade outcomes.

 **Jenny Treeby** 4:26
Oh.
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 4:43
And although Australian growers and plant industries use concepts such as pest free areas and pest free places of productions to facilitate trade, we don't have standard requirements for how that looks. So when we're trying to conceptually create new ones or consider how pest might be managed.
We don't have standards that we can go to to provide those base concepts and start from a consistent approach.
And if Australia doesn't regulate pests in line with international standards, we risk breaking international trade regulations. We can also be wasting our regulatory resources across States and across government.
And we also run a risk of damaging our strong international reputation for bio security because we may be seen as not implementing best practise. We may be being seen as unable to control pest populations and also imposing unnecessary import regulations.

 **Laurie Dowling** 5:37
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 5:46
So what are these policies? So we're consulting on two separate policies at the moment and they are to provide guidance and policy settings for implementing different styles of pest management programmes.
So that they can be implemented in that consistent approach. So the goal of both policies is to manage plant tests that we already have in Australia mainly and ones that we want to try and.
Minimise the risk of spreading and the impact to growers, so these need to be based on regulatory approaches that are underpinned by risk based assessments and evidence based assessments.
To enable safe trade, the first policy that I'll be covering is the pest freedom and pest absent policy. So under this arrangement, growers can export plants without additional phytosanitary requirements if those plants originate from a pest free location. So there's currently no nationally.

 **Grace** 6:48
OK.

 **Jenny Treeby** 6:54
OK.

 **Hollis, Claire** 6:56
Agreed set of requirements for pest freedom programmes so this policy sets out what those requirements are and that consistent approach to their application. The policy also really aims to separate out when a pest freedom programme is needed.
And when we can also claim an area of absence, and this we're really making this separation due to recent updates in our international standards where we have an opportunity for areas and growers and governments to demonstrate pest absence as opposed to requiring a pest freedom programme.
Where that pest is at a lower risk, I'll go into those concepts a little bit more. The policy outlines the requirements to establish and maintain pest free programmes and absence claims that align with the international standards.
And we will be going through the different types of programmes such as pest free areas, PFAS, pest free places of production, PFPPS pest free production sites, PFPS as well as pest absence.
Difference for those are effectively just geographic size. The RNQP or regulated non quarantine pest policy provides guidance for managing non quarantine pests but mainly affect and cause economic damage through the propagative material.
So while the department can usually not regulate a non quarantine pest, so that is a pest that we already have present in Australia and is widespread, we can if that non quarantine pest meets the definition of an RNQP.
Then the department can still regulate it at the international border and prevent and minimise more and more pest of that species coming in. So together these policies support industry and government to facilitate safe trade.
Domestically and internationally, and hopefully reduce the plant pest related damage through collaborative management and working together.
Before we go into the two policies individually, I thought it would be good to take a bit of a step back and look at the broad picture of pest management options and when they might be applied. So each of the pest management options outlined in red here.
Are underpinned and all of the concepts in these policies are underpinned by international regulations, in particular very specific ISPMS. We haven't included those ISPMS here. If you want further information on them, let us know afterwards and we can absolutely tell you exactly which ones relate to which different concepts.
But they can be fairly dry rating, so the concept a concept in here as well is around official control. We're not covering official control today as we already have a national policy that covers official control.
So official control RNQP pest freedom programmes and pest absence will pretty closely linked concepts. However, they're separated by the status of the pest size of the area that we're seeking to protect and also the way that the pest is Sprint.
However, each option must be supported by surveillance evidence and risk based analysis, so this flow chart can help us work out when a different type of management option might be best. So start we've got the question is the pest.
Isn't in Australia if it's not present, then we should be going for a status of absence. That means that no measures should be required for domestic or international trade. It should be allowed to be moving freely if the pest is in Australia and is not under eradication, that's a whole.
The conversation the next question is whether it is present within the jurisdiction that we're looking at. If it's not in a jurisdiction and that there's an area that they're wishing to protect, we can be applying things such as an official control programme or also a different a version of a pest.
Programme and that will help to exclude the pest from entering that area and which how that's done is very much inherent on the risk of that pest.
If the pest is present in a jurisdiction, the next question we want to ask is, is that pest widely distributed within a jurisdiction? If it's not widely distributed, then official control in alignment with another with a pest freedom programme is also a totally appropriate mechanism.
To help minimise that risk and that sort of a official control in that way will be to help contain the pest to the area of the jurisdiction it's in and exclude it from the area that we're trying to protect.
The next part of the question is if the pest is widely distributed within the jurisdiction. Is the pest mainly transmitted through propagative materials so nursery stock? If it's not so, if it's passed through other mechanisms.
Then pest freedom programmes are perfectly appropriate. If, however, nursery stock is its main pathway for spread, then we can start to consider a regulated non quarantine pest and the measures that might be able to support.
That.
Through the department's work with industries and state and territory governments and international trading partners, we've identified several issues that these policies really seek to address, so we want to try and provide a great set of requirements for implementing pest freedom programmes.
Documenting pest absence and we also want to promote the continue the continued use of pest freedom programmes and pest absence. This will really help minimise our incorrect claims.
So sorry, I should have also said I'm now going into the pest freedom programme policy and what's in that and what we're trying to do with that one. And I'll tell the R&Q PS next.
We need when we're considering pest pest freedom programmes for them to be evidence based, so they must be underpinned by risk assessments that support that, are supporting by surveillance and also helps apply the appropriate regulatory controls.

 **Jenny Treeby** 13:47
OK.

 **Hollis, Claire** 13:53
And there's a really long term risk to Australia if we don't have well supported pest freedom programmes. So we want to improve. These policies are aiming to improve the evidence base that we're using to set these policies. The policy is going to set some really clear expectations.
So the programmes are developed using pest risk assessments and underpinned by evidence based regulatory requirements that support supported by that appropriate surveillance, the policy is looking to really clearly.
Define roles and responsibilities of the Australian Government, States and territories and also industries, and this really sets clear expectations and improves that accountability. It also aligns with international standards, including several updates to international standards. We're making sure that we're reflecting in the Australian.
Context so that we can make the most of them, and ultimately the benefit of these programmes is that we want to maintain trade outcomes and improve trade outcomes with a common understanding of the requirements and the intended outcome to improve that pest management.
By security outcomes.
So some key, some key considerations for pest freedom programmes and pest absences. So when we're planning one of these programmes, there are a few really important things to keep in mind. First is, it's important to understand the different types of programmes.
That we have available to us and that's the PFASPFPP S&P FPSS.
When choosing the right programme, there are several factors to consider. One of the most important ones is the pest pressure of an area and really what's going to be feasible to implement. Part of that. It's also going to be about the geographic size.
Are the growers across a really big region or are they really limited in where they are? Or are they really scattered across a region? And also what's the type of production system that's used? Is it open field? Is it glass house?
What? What does that look like? And every single case is going to be different also depending on the type of programme, there's going to be different expectations on the activities that are undertaken by industry and by governments. The larger, more open areas may be more resource intensive to implement those pest exclusions.
Measures, particularly when that pest pressure is high and so if the cost of trying to implement a measure is going to be too high, we might need to be looking at smaller geographic programmes for what that is.
And time frame is also a factor, so a PFA is expected to be implemented over many many seasons, whereas a PFP or a PFPS can actually be set up for single growing seasons and reimplemented time and time again, meaning that you don't need to maintain those levels of control.
When the growing season is over and the risks aren't there.
Recent updates to international requirements clarifies that if a status of pest absence can be justified, then a pest free area may not be needed. So what that means is that if an area doesn't have a pest.
At all, and the risk of that pest entering an area and establishing a really, really low, then we can justify an A status of pest absence. So this isn't a management programme. This is actually an area's status.
And this is a really, really good scenario because the ongoing burden of proof to maintain a status is generally far lower than a pest free area or any of these other programmes. A pest status for an area that needs APFA or a pest free or any of the other programmes.
Would be that we have that the pest in an area and that we're trying to protect that specific area, whereas where it's absent we're recognising that that risk is far lower. And so that the measures that we need are also far lower to make that.
So while all of these terms sound really, really similar from a trade outcome perspective, it's actually really important that we're using the correct terminology. It's very, very easy to overstate what programme is being used.
And this can lead to domestic and international trade partners to expect higher levels of intervention that are actually being applied or that are being justified. So if we provide a certificate or something like that, but saying that an area is free.
That must be supported by a fairly high level of surveillance and other regulatory controls that might actually be meant was that the area is absent, and then the surveillance requirements are far lower and.
The burden of evidence and ongoing work to maintain it is far lower, so the terminology is very similar, but the actual implementation and what that means on the ground and the regulatory controls that are applied are really quite different. Hopefully this policy will help separate out some of that language and really create that consistent language.
And which place?
Pest freedom programmes and I'm going to go through this fairly quickly. The policy has minimum standards that are expected for the programme. They're not pest specific. The policy can't be pest specific. Rather these are high level requirements and every single application needs to consider these different.

 **Jenny Treeby** 19:42
None.

 **Hollis, Claire** 19:50
Ones, but they're all going to be different and they're going to be assessed best based on the pest and based on the outcome that's being sought, they must be underpinned by a risk assessment, which will then help inform all of the other elements.
More or less, once we have that risk assessment, we know what that surveillance requirement is going to be to help validate the establishment of a programme and ensure it's maintained. We know what the diagnostic and testing tools are going to be.
The risk assessment will also help to justify the regulatory requirements and movement restrictions and product integrity to help prevent the spread or entrance of a pest into an area, we need to have auditing and documentation to ensure that systems and components of the programme are implemented.
Properly and appropriately and are then accessible down the line for verification. We also need to have corrective action plans. So what is going to happen when if a pest is detected or an outbreak occurs?
We need to have public information considered. So who are our key stakeholders? What are the communication channels? Doesn't have to be massive, but we do need to think about what that communication looks like to make sure that all of the stakeholders.
Involved and that are impacted by or could impact the programme, understand why it's there and what's it's important for. Finally, the PEST programme should be reviewed regularly to ensure that they still meet the intended needs of the programme.

 **Jenny Treeby** 21:25
Yeah.

 **Hollis, Claire** 21:30
Also, to assess if there's new, any new scientific information that should be considered and also to demonstrate pest absence. Many of these elements should also be considered. However, the burden of proof is far less than a pest freedom programme because the inheritance.
Risk of that pest is minimal. So for example, if you're claiming pest absence for an area, you probably don't need as much public information.
Rosa's responsibilities under this policy, they very much align with Australia's bio security system and international standards, so from an industry perspective, industry is expected to perform photosanitary activities to manage the pest, and this can include monitoring surveillance.
So treatment and each one will be dependent on the pest industries must maintain records of photosanitary activities to support that ongoing recognition of the programmes and also must report any detections and follow any policy or legislative requirements.
State and territory governments are the primary responsible entity for overseeing and implementing these programmes within their jurisdiction, so this includes providing assurance to the Commonwealth on the programme and what it's intended for, and also if it's to support international.
Exports state and territory government can also help support the implementation of the programme and support those growers who are going to be doing some of that work for regulatory requirements and also for supporting trade.
The Australian Government will receive all applications, so we assess applications. We make sure that they're in accordance with international requirements and we also assess them to ensure that they'll support international exports. The Australian government can negotiate recognition of these programmes.
Phytosanitary measure, or also a condition of trade with our international trading partner partners. And we can also oversee, sees, oversee compliance and assurance activities where they're intended for international trade.
I'll move on to the regulated non quarantine pests, so RNQ PS.
An RNQP is a pest that has the following features. So first, as the name suggests it's a non quarantine pest, so it's already present and can be widespread in Australia. And yet Despite that, if it's under this policy.
We can still regulate it at the international border to be recognised under here. The pests present on a specific host propagative material has to have a negative effect and cause economic losses. So that has to be known the effects.
There has to be effective measures to suppress that pest and reduce those negative costs and the economic benefit from the regulatory activities must be balanced. Sorry, the benefit from implementing those regulatory measures must be balanced against the costs of implementing them. So cost benefit analysis.
If the pest is recognised as an RNQP, the Department of Agriculture can still regulate that pest at the international border, even though the pest is not a quarantine pest and we already have it in Australia.
Because of its features of being an RNQP, its implementation can help minimise the impact of that pest by protecting certain production schemes. It can also really help to reduce that pest pressure in those schemes over time and thus lead to healthier crops and hopefully.
Improved yields.
Although RNQ PS and quarantine pests are both regulated by the department at the international border, there are some really key differences that may exclude a pest. A plant pest from being considered to be an RNQP.
So in terms of pest status and RNQP is a non quarantine pest, so it's already present in Australia, can be widespread, but it doesn't have to be widespread, just has to be here a quarantine pest whereas a quarantine pest can either be considered to be entirely absent.
Or present with only a limited distribution once it has a widespread distribution, that's when it becomes a non quarantine test in terms of regulated pathways and RNQP is managed through the targeted regulation on nursery stock and propagative.
Of material pathway and that's because it's the pathway that the RNQP primarily spreads through a quarantine pest can be managed to cross or should be managed to cross all of its pathways in terms of economic impact and RNQP must be shown to have a negative impact for its host.
Whereas a quarantine pest can just be predicted to have that negative impact, and even that prediction can be a sufficient reason to justify regulating it.
For an R in QP, the purpose of official control is to suppress that pest within or exclude the pest from a commercial production location for a quarantine pest. The purpose of official control is to contain the pest within its existing range and to protect it and to assist with.
The eradication, if that's deemed appropriate.
Implementing an RNQP can be really quite different to other pest management programmes and one of the real key differences is that industry can lead its activity. It will be supported by industry codes and must be supported by the States and territory that it operates in. But.
It can be an industry LED initiative. The policy seeks to address several key issues to clarify requirements for what can be considered an R&QP, and also to clarify the roles and responsibility Australian government States and territories and industries in implementing it ongoing.
If the R and QP requirements are met, then each stakeholders performing its roles, then we're still able to maintain those regulations at the border and this will help maintain that clean propagative material coming into Australia to help reduce further.
Importation of of pests through it.
Also importantly, the policy helps to further align our plant health system with international trade standards. Current context can only be a good thing.
To have a pest recognised as an RNQP industry can submit an application that is supported by the state and territory to the Australian Government for us to assess, the application must detail the pest risk assessment which demonstrates.
That the RNQP is mainly transmitted through the pro particular material pathway should also detail how the RNQP effects that host plant, which can then also to help inform the control measures. The application must also outline the negative economic impact of that pest being found.
On the host plant and also the overall regulatory cost and economic benefits from the regulation and that will just be considered as part of that application. We don't need full blown cost benefit analysis.
That concept can be a bit daunting if if it's needed to be a very, very high standard. It doesn't need to be a full cost benefit of analysis, we just need to have some understanding that the benefits of implementing it will outweigh the costs of implementing an arrangement.
The application must also outline control measures used to suppress the pest or exclude the pest from commercial production locations. So mandatory certification schemes are acceptable measures to manage our own Q, PS and control measures are primarily performed by industries and overseen by state and territory governments.
Now an important part for an R and QP is that these measures that we implement domestically must be equivalent and cannot be less than what we apply at the international border. So we can't have less measures domestically than we are imposing on the imports coming in, so.
If we still want to test and certify seeds coming into Australia, then seeds being spread with shared within Australia or sold or traded domestically must also be tested.
As I've already alluded to, roles and responsibilities are quite different for RNQP programmes. Industries and growers are responsible for suppressing or excluding the RNQP in commercial production, industry leads on ground activity to manage the pest, including monitoring, surveillance, treatment.
Industry must maintain records of phytosanitary activities to support that ongoing recognition of the programme, in particular, if corrective actions are going to be required if a pest is detected, all of those sorts of records must be maintained. States and territory governments have that role of overseeing industry activities.
Provide assurance to deaf that the RNQP programme is meeting its objectives. State and territory governments can also support the programme, such as through legislation, accreditation of businesses, issuing of permits and also on ground support.
The Australian government, through my department deaf assesses RNQP regulates applications, continues regulation at the international border and also seeks to, where appropriate, get international trade recognition of those programmes.
That is a quick run through of the different policies, and as I'd mentioned, we are now seeking feedback on the two of them. So we have launched, have your says and we are seeking.
Your views and thoughts on the policies these policies have already been drafted in consultation with our States and territories, but we all recognise that your input is going to be really valuable to make sure that they're fit for purpose going into the future.
We will be continually reviewing these policies so this is not a set and forget as soon as we start using them and trying them out in the real world, we know full well that we're going to need to adapt them and change them. So what we set here is not then going to be set in stone forever.
If it doesn't work for us, so long as it meets international trade requirement, so the survey, but have your say survey opened on the 4th of August.
We're having our webinar today. This webinar will be available for viewing into the future. While they have your say is open and the survey closes on the 1st of September throughout October, we're hoping to have received those feedback and.
Reviewing it, updating the policies as needed, we can only consider feedback that aligns with international requirements, so there might be comments or suggestions that we can't implement because of international standards.
But we will seek to address comments wherever possible. We will then be taking these policies to our state and territory counterparts again towards the end of the year for final agreement for then publication and for implementation.
If significant changes need to be made through feedback that's received, we might undertake another round of consultation and of course, even while we're consulting on these, we can still be working to implement any arrangements if they they come up and we want to actually start using them.
Just aligned with international standards and trying to match it. It's not giving us authority to do it. We already have that.
So I'll now open the floor to any questions that people might have.
Stunned silence.
Nigel.

 **Jenny Treeby** 34:23
Yeah.

 **Nigel Crump** 34:24
Thank you. That was a very interesting and informative presentation. Unfortunately, I missed the first part of it. I'm interested in the timeline for implementation for these things. Looking at some of our European colleagues and that have been using regulated non quarantine.
Pest policy for some time now and it seems that this is still probably another 12 months off before implementation. Is that the timeline for implementation?

 **Hollis, Claire** 34:49
No, I'm hoping that we'll be seeking agreement to this in December, but we can be looking at specific cases and applying them even in the meantime, like we have the international standards to do these.
Arrangements so R&Q PS they're allowed by international standards, these policies are just trying to provide a common baseline for how we do it. We can absolutely already do them irrespective of having these policies. So pest freedom programmes are a perfect case.
We have PFAS for fruit flies all over Australia, yet we don't have an agreed national policy on them, but we can still implement them because we'll be assessing each and every case as it stands.

 **Nigel Crump** 35:32
Oh.
That was my follow up question as well. In the potato world which I mean the sea potato world, there's a lot of Interstate policies which are not harmonised, but that is this Nemoto, TPP CLSOPSTVD we rattle them all off.

 **Hollis, Claire** 35:42
Yeah.
Yep.
Yep.
Yeah, yeah.

 **Nigel Crump** 35:54
One of the things I see when I see this don't want to see the walls coming down in a hurry when everyone doesn't have evidence to support these area freedoms. So how do we maintain trade in that in that intervening period?

 **Hollis, Claire** 36:05
Yeah, absolutely.

 **Jenny Treeby** 36:06
Mm-hmm.

 **Nigel Crump** 36:06
I see a lot of challenges to the state level.

 **Hollis, Claire** 36:09
There absolutely is, and we work with our states on this quite a lot. What we're planning on doing is we know that there's a lot of official control currently being managed for a lot of the the pests that we do have. We're not going to rip the walls down. As you say, we'd recognise all of the programmes that currently exist.

 **Jenny Treeby** 36:19
None.

 **Hollis, Claire** 36:29
Any new programmes that come up, we'll make sure that we are assessing them against the thresholds that are in these policies. We may need to assess other domestic programmes if they're showing significant failures to try and bring them up to standard, but we're not going to stop that recognition of anything.
Thing that we already recognise, and that includes international claims, so we want this to support us going forward, not pull the pin on all of the arrangements that we've bought and then make everyone go back over every single arrangement.
And start from scratch. So this is a. Let's move forward, yeah.

 **Nigel Crump** 37:07
OK.
It's going to be interesting for some some of the historical stuff does need to be questioned, though. We're going to say.

 **Hollis, Claire** 37:13
It absolutely does, and we'll do that as it comes up. Without a doubt. We have found several really good case studies of of historical decisions and historical cases that do need to be reviewed.
But we'll make close as we go rather than.
Pulling it on everything.
Any other questions?

 **Nigel Crump** 37:41
If no one, if no one else is gonna ask a question, I just the industry recognition of data as well. It's always a challenge of how industry data gets recognised.

 **Hollis, Claire** 37:46
Yep, Yep.
It really is, yeah, yeah.

 **Nigel Crump** 37:52
So is this giving more scope for that policy to be? You know for more industry data to be recognised?

 **Hollis, Claire** 37:53
Yeah.
I think it does. I think that there are some really good industry schemes out there where knowing that data standard at the very start means that that recognition can happen through it. There are a couple like Citrus Watch Forest watch and programmes like that.
There's always that perceived and real conflict for for that surveillance data. But these policies, particularly RNQP absolutely.
Is predicated on industry data and what that looks like and how we can use that to support these programmes because governments don't.
Need to be doing that surveillance all the while it is a really tricky question. There's a lot of work going into that, but having those minimum data standards, what's that reporting? What does that look like? But yes, I'd hope that these policies really help build that place.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 39:07
No.

 **Hollis, Claire** 39:08
Go forward.
Charlotte.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 39:15
Thanks, Claire. That was really interesting. I was just wondering, would it we be still able to maintain pest free areas and have active controls like sit and update the code of practise with sort of more relevant models for fruit fly timing and things like that? Is that being considered?

 **Hollis, Claire** 39:36
Fruit flies are always being considered. That is the other arm of my work. Sometimes we are limited by international trade requirements that already exist.
However, we are advocating for trying to make sure that they are always scientifically justified requirements and what that looks like. So fruit flies are the always a challenging, challenging piece.
And certainly you know, there is a lot of conversation throughout governments with industries on how can we best make sure that our pest management arrangements are.
Ford leaning are effective are least burdensome as possible while still providing the certainty that they need to, and that they're supported by technically justified requirements. I know in the fruit fly space, sometimes those international requirements.
Are higher than we would like and that we believe are scientifically justified. And then there's existing trade options to consider and risks there. So it's tricky. But yes, I hear you.
Yeah.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 40:56
Thank you.
And just on Nigel's question, if I may, you know, with export we have a lot of, you know traps. So they're very specific, they would be relatively easily incorporated, wouldn't they, because they're that, you know, they have lures and trained crop monitors.

 **Hollis, Claire** 41:05
Yes.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 41:21
And things like that.

 **Hollis, Claire** 41:23
Yeah, they can sometimes be. So if we're talking again in the fruit fly space, one reason that we don't necessarily use industry traps or smart traps such as rapid aim traps and other things like that is because the sensitivity of the network means that X number of detections.
And that an outbreak happened. So we don't want to increase the number of traps, which would potentially then start triggering those outbreak detections to actually happen more frequently. So we try and keep it as thinly spread as possible to meet a statistic threshold.
Which is the the 1K or 400 metre grid?
If you start putting more traps in you then run the risk of trapping more and a trading partner isn't going to care if it's an industry trap or a government trap, they'll be like, well, your trapping network has now caught.
Or flies you are now in outbreak. So that's where sometimes those overlapping networks actually play against each other by increasing the sensitivity too much and running those risks of triggering outbreaks before they're needed.

 **Nigel Crump** 42:41
Just a just just just a pun on that. Isn't that how Donald Trump suppressed COVID? I do it like.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 42:42
Sure. Thanks.

 **Hollis, Claire** 42:48
I thought that was with UV light.

 **Nigel Crump** 42:50
Yeah, sorry, but he did say the more testing do and more we're finding so.

 **Hollis, Claire** 42:51
But.
Yeah, yeah. But do you always want to find it? You're allowed to have a little bit. You just don't want too much of it.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 42:54
No.

 **Hollis, Claire** 43:07
Did you have another question, Nigel?

 **Nigel Crump** 43:10
I'll just just a comment from a seed potato industry. We're looking really forward to this regulated non quarantine to harmonise state state policy, but also for the support, export and trade. We're seeing a number of pest like tobacco rattle virus and other things that are here and other hosts and just how it can be implemented. So we're we're really supportive of this.

 **Hollis, Claire** 43:12
No.
Yes. Yep.
Yep.
Yeah.
Yeah.
Yeah.

 **Nigel Crump** 43:31
This drive and as I said, we'll send it in Europe and other places, the world being implemented and it's very effective.

 **Hollis, Claire** 43:34
No.
It is, it absolutely is. And you know, I really look forward to working with you into the future on that and tobacco rattle virus and the others. So there are lots of really interesting case studies that we could be looking at it for. So I think it's. Yeah.
I'm looking forward to that as well.
Does anyone else have any questions?
Yeah, I do recognise that we opened this webinar very early in our consultation process and that you probably haven't had an opportunity or may not have had an opportunity to really read and digest what the policies are. So I would absolutely encourage you to, if you have further questions.
Reach out to me and my team at the national policy email address that's on the screen. We're very happy to help answer questions and anything like that. And also, you know, please provide your feedback on the policies.
What's what's bad? Obviously, like what? What might not work, but also tell us what you like. Like, if there are parts of it that you're like. No, no, no. We really like this. Please don't change it. Tell us that because knowing what's good and what needs to be maintained is equally as valuable.
As knowing what needs to be tweaked or updated or changed or has other considerations as part of it, I think that's sometimes always forgotten and then there can be unintended changes.
Little.

 **Nigel Crump** 45:19
Just one other question, you mentioned about where industry needing to get support from the just state jurisdictions to implement this. How many states do you need to? Well, how many lots do you need to change a light bulb, but how many, how many state jurisdictions do you need to to make it effective? Does it have to be everyone in agreement or is it?

 **Hollis, Claire** 45:24
Yep, Yep.
We'd we'd be wanting to have at least the main jurisdictions where the main industry is across to be involved in those conversations and to be.

 **Nigel Crump** 45:38
Step by state.

 **Hollis, Claire** 45:52
Principally supportive of it because they'll have that role in certifying, so they need to know what they're up for as well. If there's, you know, a handful of growers in another jurisdiction, we'd be needing to at least advise and they'd be involved at some point in that conversation, but they might not.
Need to be involved as quickly or as as upfront.
Well, last chance for any. I didn't check the chat. I should have checked the chat. I'm assuming that there was nothing in there, otherwise my team would have probably told me otherwise. Well, thank you very much for everyone's attendance today.
I really look forward to hearing your thoughts on the policies, and I also really look forward to working with all of the different industry groups on how we might be able to implement these going forward. You know it just.
Creates you know more more capability and more options within our repertoire, pest management really. So thank you very much everyone and have a good afternoon.

 **Charlotte Brunt** 47:17
Thanks a lot.

 **Joanna Embry** 47:18
Thank you.

 **Nigel Crump** 47:20
Yeah.

 **Ng, Jason** stopped transcription