

AQIS fact sheet

Your guide to importing Christmas goods



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine
and Inspection Service

If you are importing goods in preparation for Christmas, it is important that you are aware of Australia's strict import conditions.

There is a wide range of high-risk quarantine items capable of carrying foreign pests and diseases. These may threaten Australia's unique environment and have serious consequences for our import and export industries.

If your products do not comply with quarantine requirements they will be treated, exported, destroyed or withdrawn from sale at your expense. It can also mean a delay in delivery of your goods.

Make sure you are familiar with what products and materials can be imported into Australia and what items may require an import permit or will need to be declared to AQIS for inspection or treatment on arrival.

You can do this by checking AQIS' import conditions database ICON.

ICON is available at www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import/icon-icd and provides quarantine information you'll need to make informed decisions when purchasing goods for importation.



Some items of particular concern in Christmas-related products include:

- decorations and wreaths – often made from seeds, bark, pine cones, leaves, flowers and other plant material
- Christmas trees
- hampers which can contain high-risk foods such as cheese, dairy, meat, and egg products
- gifts filled with straw, seeds, wool or feathers, and
- handicrafts made from wood, bamboo, rattan or cane.

You can also help your suppliers to provide products that comply with Australia's import requirements by making them aware of the import conditions listed on ICON.

When importing goods watch out for signs of pest infestations and insect activity such as holes or dust.

If you do find possible infestation or have any other inquiries, call 1800 020 504.

Remember: Awareness and prevention is more efficient and less costly to your business.