



Jason Marais  
Odeum Produce

Via email: [jason@odeum.com.au](mailto:jason@odeum.com.au)

Dear Jason

On behalf of the Biosecurity Council of Western Australia, I thank you for taking the time to talk to us about your experiences with the tomato-potato psyllid biosecurity incident and its impact on market access.

We have delivered our full report to the Minister for Agriculture and Food, and are pleased to say that the Council's recommendations were well-received. Changes, based on Council recommendations, are being made by the new Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) to better support market access negotiations during biosecurity incidents.

The Department of Agriculture and Food was credited with decisive incident management, with an 'open door' to industry association representatives and with agency staff making best endeavours. However, there were serious weaknesses that must be addressed through organisational change in DPIRD, including strengthening the role of Chief Plant Biosecurity Officer, more effectively tapping into industry knowledge and networks, rebuilding some key skills and working interstate to improve decision-making under the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed.

The Council's 11 recommendations are listed and explained in the attached summary of our report to the Minister. The report can also be accessed from <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/bam/biosecurity-council-reports>

Once again, thank you for your contribution.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Goss  
CHAIRPERSON  
Biosecurity Council of WA  
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Attachment.