

Hello Ann

My name is Heather Churchill Export Manager of Australian Farmlink Pty Ltd, and currently chair of the Australian Horticultural Exporters Association.

I am not able to attend the Food/wine Sector Round table session in Adelaide tomorrow, due to a previous commitment, but would like to add input.

1. Aust horticulture, has recently lost upto 80% in export sales in some fruit commodities previously exported to Hong Kong. Fruit most affected are Citrus, Cherries, Stonefruit and Grapes. We look to the Government to include access for horticulture as a priority. These products did not require Phytosanitary Certificates
2. I am aware that China has large sectors of its horticultural growing regions, where pests and diseases are not fully identified. We ask the Government to be careful in granting access to horticultural products into Australia, that may put our domestic industries at risk from imported pests and diseases.
3. I ask that the Governmet research tariffs offered to other countries in FTA's with China, to ensure Australian produce is not at a disadvantage, with respect to Tariffs.
4. I ask the Government to be mindful of the dumping of Chinese produce in Australia, as this has already affected our fruit juice market. I am aware that tariffs are used in other markets to offset the impact of dumping.
5. I ask the Government to be mindful of MRL's on any imported fruit and vegetables, as I understand there is little regulation with respect to chemical use on Chinese products.

I hope you are able to include my viewpoints in your discussions.

Best regards,

Heather Churchill

