



Title: China: Some import licences for Australian rock lobster not approved
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii) 06/10/2020 s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: Darwin , Agriculture Posts , Brisbane , Adelaide , Perth , China Posts ,
 Sydney , Hobart
From: Beijing
 Sent by: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
References: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Response: Routine, Information Only
Summary:
 s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(b)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

Cable reports on problems being experienced by some Chinese importers of live aquatics in having their import licences for Australian live rock lobster approved by the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC).

2. Importers of live aquatics into China, such as rock lobster, require an import licence issued by the GACC to legally import the product. Import licences are usually valid for 12 months and will specify for each importer the approved country(s), live aquatic product(s) and quantity of product able to be imported. Import licences expire at differing times, i.e. the actual approval date for each importer.

Initially, seemingly only one refusal...
 s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

4. Subsequent to the meeting, Post checked the GACC website. There was no recent update of regulatory requirements for live aquatic import licences.

5. We also reached out to the relevant area in GACC to see if there had been any relevant administrative changes. s 33(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

6. Post also contacted other trading partners s 33(b)





s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

9. Post also again contacted other trading partners s 33(b)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(a), s 47G(1)(b)

16. Exporters were moving to consignees that still had quota. s 47E(d)





s 47E(d)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

22. On whether refusals were specific to aquatic species, DAWE has reviewed the relevant protocol for export of live aquatic products to China. Both SRL and WRL were specifically listed, so we doubt this was a factor.

23. Post will continue to closely monitor this issue.

Sent By: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prepared By:

Topics: TRADE/Market Access , TRADE/Policy General

Canberra distribution

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (4 - 6) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed





Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

Market Access Advice

MAA 2020-17: China: Fish: Significant delays for consignments of rock lobster

Date of issue: 31 October 2020

Date of effect: Immediate

Reference Number: MAA2020-17

Attention:

Industries—Industry bodies - Seafood Export Consultative Committee

Export establishments

Licensed exporters

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment —Central and Regional offices

Purpose

This Market Access Advice (MAA) provides urgent information on significant delays in border clearance for consignments of rock lobster exported from Australia.

Summary of key points

- The department is aware of significant delays at several Chinese ports of entry for the clearance of consignments of rock lobsters.
- Information received indicates the rates of inspection for the usual import testing have been increased to 50% of consignments.
- The exact testing being applied has not been confirmed. The department is urgently seeking further information on this increased border activity.
- Exporters of rock lobster may wish to reconsider exporting for the immediate period.
- If your consignment fails or receives an adverse inspection outcome and is rejected, please email the department, including all details, at exportstandards@awe.gov.au.
- The department is not aware of increased inspection and testing being applied to exports of other seafood products.
- It is recommended that you keep working with your importer in China to stay informed of delays in border clearance.

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment encourages all exporters of all seafood to work with their importer to ensure you are informed of current border inspection activity and that product meets the current importing country requirements.

The information provided in this advice is current at the time of writing and is intended for use as guidance only and should not be taken as definitive or exhaustive. The Commonwealth endeavours to keep information current and accurate, however, it may be subject to change without notice. Exporters are encouraged to verify these details with their importers prior to undertaking production/exports. The Commonwealth will not accept liability for any loss resulting from reliance on information contained in this notice.

Further information

Contact exportstandards@awe.gov.au if you have any queries.

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Monday, 2 November 2020 1:14 PM
To: Sarah Hooper; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Elizabeth Day
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Australian rocklobster - Customs delays in China - TPs [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Lobster Update for Industry.pdf; China - Customs clearance delays for Australian rocklobster - talking points - 2 November.docx

OFFICIAL

Hi Sarah, s 22(1)(a)(ii) Elizabeth

Please see attached TPs on the customs delays on rocklobster imports in China – also appreciate if you can continue to pass on any feedback etc you are receiving on this.

As the situation is still moving quickly, we may have further updates later today, including updates following Minister Birmingham’s press conference.

I have also attached advice industry has provided to its members for further background.

Kind regards,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director | China Economic and Trade Section
China Economic and Engagement Branch | North Asia Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Phone ext: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
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Web | Twitter | YouTube | Flickr

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Revised border inspection arrangements for lobster exports to China

Purpose

This document is for the seafood industry stakeholders. It sets out the process that has been agreed by members of the STAG working group formed to provide a coordinated response to the current trade disruption due to uncertainty around border inspection processes for Australian lobsters exported to China.

Background

Here is what we know so far:

- Thursday 29 October – first notices from importers that new testing regime would be imposed on lobsters with effect from 30th of October and that 50% of the shipments would be tested.
- Friday 30 October - significant amount of product landed in China was detained (at least 32 shipments).
- Saturday 31st October – some cargo was cleared on Saturday while others were detained . A further 10 to 15 shipments landed.
- Sunday 1 November – fishing has been ceased while situation is clarified.

The STAG working group comprises the key industry associations involved in lobster exports. The role of the working group is to coordinate communications with and between the broader seafood industry, relevant government authorities and the media

Members of the working group are working closely with the relevant authorities and with Chinese importers and customers to get clarity on the situation. The aim is to minimise the impact of the disruption and to resume normal operations as soon as possible so that China can continue to have access to our premium lobster.

Daily Updates

The STAG working group will meet daily and provide updated information for government and industry. To register for updates please email admin@seafoodtradeadvisory.com

Media Communications

Key contacts are:

Tom Cosentino
Executive Officer SRL
Tel: s 47F(1)
Email: [s 47F\(1\)@margoconsulting.com.au](mailto:s 47F(1)@margoconsulting.com.au)

Matt Taylor
Chief Executive Officer WRL
Tel: s 47F(1)
Email: [s 47F\(1\)@westernrocklobster.org](mailto:s 47F(1)@westernrocklobster.org)



Australian Lobster Exporter Update

1 November 2020

Australia's lobster industry values the mutually beneficial relationships we enjoy with our trade partners, including China where we have had an export presence for many decades. We appreciate that all Governments have a right to ensure that products entering their country are safe.

In the last few days, some Australian lobster shipments have experienced customs clearance delays due to an increased level of import inspections in China. Whilst some cargo has been cleared, there are continued risks of delays while new processes are being implemented. To mitigate this risk a decision has been made by the majority of exporters to stop sending shipments to China until more is known about the new process.

The information we have at this time suggests that these new tests are related to new health and compliance checks. The industry is working closely with Chinese importers and the relevant government authorities to understand what the new requirements are and how best to comply with them. The aim is to minimise disruptions while ensuring our Chinese customers get access to safe quality premium lobsters from Australia.

We're confident that Australian rock lobster industry's reputation as a global leader in quality, reliability and sustainability will meet the standards of the new process. Our food safety and quality systems are world class. We will provide an up-date when we know more.

The Seafood Trade Advisory Group has formed a small working group to work collaboratively with authorities to resolve this issue quickly. The group will be meeting daily to share information. Further updates will be provided as details become known.

Enquiries:

Tom Cosentino
Executive Officer SRL

Tel: s 47F(1)

Email: s 47F(1) [@margoconsulting.com.au](mailto:s 47F(1)@margoconsulting.com.au)

Matt Taylor
Chief Executive Officer WRL

Tel: s 47F(1)

Email: s 47F(1) [@westernrocklobster.org](mailto:s 47F(1)@westernrocklobster.org)



**China: Increased testing of Australian live rocklobster imports
(2 November 2020)**

- We are aware of reports of customs clearance issues related to premium shellfish imports into China and are working closely with the industry to get more clarity on this matter.
 - industry feedback suggests testing will take up to 2 days to complete, and product will be held at port until testing is completed
 - understand live rocklobster is a time sensitive product, and this delay may render it non-viable.
- The Australian Embassy in Beijing is seeking an urgent meeting with GACC to pursue this matter, and seek formal advice of any change.
 - the Government will continue working with industry to ensure that exporters are informed and to determine the best approach in going forward.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports
 - These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products.
- All importers should be subjected to equivalent standards and there should be no discriminatory screening practices.

If asked: what is the government doing about this?

- The Government has been working with industry to understand the situation
 - we have also requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter
 - China's Customs authority (GACC) has not formally advised this change to import testing, or what kind of test is being carried out.

If asked: is this only impacting Australian lobster?

- Understand that increased testing rate is only being applied to Australia lobster at this point.

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

Background

According to industry, live rocklobster exports to China account for the vast majority of Australian live rocklobster exports to the world.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

DAWE issued market access advice on 1 November 2020, notifying of significant delays at several Chinese ports of entry for the clearance of consignments of rock lobster, and noting exporters may wish to reconsider exporting for the immediate period.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)



Title: South Australia: s 33(a)(iii)
MRN: s 22(1)(a)(ii) 05/11/2020 s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: Canberra
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
From: Adelaide
Sent by: Elizabeth Day
Response: Routine, Information Only
Summary:
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

SA Rock lobster fishing has come to a
standstill. s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Rock lobster
s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)





s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

Sent By: Elizabeth Day
Prepared By: Elizabeth Day
Topics: TRADE/Market Access , TRADE/Policy General , POLITICAL-
ECONOMIC/General Economic , ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY/General

Canberra distribution

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (16 - 18) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed





Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

WEEKEND SES TALKING POINTS: CHINA

ISSUED: FRIDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2020

Produced by the China Political Section for NAD SES weekend use; a compilation of current talking points for which NAD is lead within DFAT.

MAIN SUBJECTS COVERED:

KEY TOPICS

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[Economic/trade relations](#) 15
s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (20 - 34) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Economic/trade relations

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Emerging trade issues

- We are aware of reports that some exports to China could be subject to increased customs scrutiny or delays; and reports that China will cease purchases from Friday (6 November) of Australian s 22(1)(a)(ii) lobster, s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 - we are consulting with industry to find out more information.
 - the Government has requested China clarify the situation regarding these reports
 - China has denied that it is discriminating against Australian products –we take it at face value and we certainly hope that is the case.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (36 - 37) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Merchandise Trade with China

If raised: reports of increased customs scrutiny or bans on certain Australian exports?

- We are aware of reports that some exports to China could be subject to increased customs scrutiny or delays; and reports that China will cease purchases s 22(1)(a)(ii)
lobster, s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 - we are consulting with industry to find out more information.
 - the Government has requested China clarify the situation regarding these reports
 - China has denied that it is discriminating against Australian products –we take it at face value and we certainly hope that is the case.

If raised: what is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?

- Aware the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) has increased the testing rate on Australian live rocklobster imports.
- DAWE and DFAT have been working with industry to understand the situation.
- We have also requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports.

- These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (40 - 68) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Lobsters

8. The SA lobster trade remains frozen (s 22(1)(a)(ii), s 47G(1)(a), s 47E(d)
the discovery of cadmium in Australian rock lobster
(s 22(1)(a)(ii), s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b))





s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

SA government response

11. The SA Department of Trade and Investment is exploring ways to support affected exporters. According to Director of Strategy, Policy and Analytics s 22(1)(a)(ii), the department is looking to support predominantly s 22(1)(a)(ii) seafood exporters with market expansion. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii)

Sent By:	Elizabeth Day
Prepared By:	Elizabeth Day
Topics:	TRADE/Market Access , TRADE/Policy General , POLITICAL-ECONOMIC/General Economic , ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY/General





Canberra distribution

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (81 - 83) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed





Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

WEEKEND SES TALKING POINTS: CHINA

ISSUED: FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2020

Produced by the China Political Section for NAD SES weekend use; a compilation of current talking points for which NAD is lead within DFAT.

MAIN SUBJECTS COVERED:

KEY TOPICS

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

[Economic/trade relations](#) 15
s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (85 - 103) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Issues with specific commodities

If raised: what is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?

- Aware the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) has increased the testing rate on Australian live rocklobster imports.
- We have requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter.
- We respect the right of any importing nation to undertake appropriate safety and quarantine checks
 - but any arrangements shouldn't impede our exporters' ability to trade in time-sensitive, high-value products.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports.
- These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products.
- We (DAWE/DFAT) will continue to liaise closely with industry to understand developments.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (105 - 130) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

China trade summary
27 November 2020

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Lobster

- GACC notified DAWE on 5 and 6 November that it had detected cadmium levels above permissible levels in two consignments. The notification stated GACC had initiated 'enhanced inspection' on Australian lobster. DAWF is actively working with industry on next steps.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

- We understand exporters have ceased shipments until there is more clarity on the new testing and clearance process.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Style: Bullet + Aligned at: 0 cm + Tab after: 1 cm + Indent at: 1 cm



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments

Further detail on trade disruptions.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Summary of Chinese trade actions against Australian exports in 2020

Summary of Official Actions, Unofficial Actions and Unconfirmed Rumours by Key Sectors



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Attachment A. Recent trade disruptions with China
s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Lobster

- On 30 October, several consignments of live lobster were detained for extensive testing.
 - China Customs subsequently notified DAWE on 5 and 6 November it had detected cadmium levels above the allowable level in two consignments.
 - China Customs 5 November notification also stated they had initiated 'enhanced inspection' on Australian lobster.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

- Exporters have suspended shipments until there is more clarity on the new testing and clearance process.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - this section and pages (141 - 142) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Attachment C. Summary of Chinese trade actions against Australian exports in 2020

Date	Action
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

29 October

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

30 October	Live rock lobster detained by GACC for testing, resulting in loss of multiple consignments
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

5-6 November	Notification cadmium levels exceeding the allowable amount had been detected in two consignments of live rock lobster and that Australian lobster imports would receive 'enhanced inspection' (5 November)
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Attachment D. Summary of Official Actions, Unofficial Actions and Unconfirmed Reports by Key Sectors

Sector	Official Actions	Unofficial Actions	Unconfirmed Reports
Seafood	30 October – Several consignments of live lobster detained for testing, leading to some product perishing 5 November – Notification lobster imports will be subject to ‘enhanced inspection’ (understood to involve testing for heavy metals) 5-6 November – Notification of elevated cadmium levels detected in two lobster consignments		s 33(a)(iii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - this section and pages (146 - 147) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

Sent: Saturday, 31 October 2020 8:24 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: Frances Adamson; Sally Kirby; Elly Lawson; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Amy Guihot; Andrew Jacenko
Subject: FW: DAWE Talking Points: China increased testing of Australian live rocklobster imports [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Dear all

Please find attached the latest TPs from DAWE in response to reports that China has commenced additional testing of Australian live lobsters (from Friday). There has been no official GACC announcement about this policy change, nor the nature of the tests. Post is seeking further clarification from GACC.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

DAWE advises these TPs have been provided to both Ministers Littleproud and Duniam. I have also shared TPs and information with the International Division in PM&C.

Regards
 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director
 China Economic and Trade Team
 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: McAlister, Jodie <Jodie.McAlister@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 31 October 2020 5:14 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; Amy Guihot <Amy.Guihot@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au; Elly Lawson <Elly.Lawson@dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au; Agriculture <Agriculture@pmc.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au; Andrew Jacenko <Andrew.Jacenko@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @agriculture.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @agriculture.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @agriculture.gov.au; Ag Media <Media@agriculture.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @agriculture.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @agriculture.gov.au
Subject: Talking Points: China increased testing of Australian live rocklobster imports [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Dear All

Talking Points: China increased testing of Australian live rocklobster imports

Updated: 31 October 2020

- The Department is aware the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) has increased the testing rate on Australian live rocklobster imports to 50 per cent of consignments.
- GACC has not formally advised of this change to import testing, or what kind of test is being carried out.
- Industry feedback suggests testing will take up to 2 days to complete, and product will be held at port until testing is completed.
- Understand live rocklobster is a time sensitive product, and this delay may render it non-viable.
- The Australian Embassy in Beijing is seeking an urgent meeting with GACC to pursue this matter, and seek formal advice of any change.
- Australian industry is liaising with the Department to get advice out more broadly, to allow exporters to make decisions about whether to avoid exporting to the market.
- Will continue working with industry to ensure that exporters are informed and disruption to trade is minimised to the extent possible.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports
- These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products

If asked: what is the government doing about this?

- DAWE and DFAT have been working with industry to understand the situation.
- We have also requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter.

If asked: is this only impacting Australian lobster?

- Understand that increased testing rate is only being applied to Australia lobster at this point.

s 33(a)(iii)

Background

According to industry, live rock lobster exports to China account for the vast majority of Australian live rock lobster exports to the world.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

Regards

Jodie

Jodie McAlister
 Assistant Secretary
 Agriculture Trade and Market Access Branch
 Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
 t s 22(1)(a)(ii) | m s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 w www.awe.gov.au | e Jodie.McAlister@awe.gov.au

The department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to traditional owners, their cultures and elders past and present.

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China Trade

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If raised: What is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?.....9
s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (153 - 159) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If raised: What is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?

- Aware the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) has increased the testing rate on Australian live rocklobster imports.

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- We have requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter.
- We respect the right of any importing nation to undertake appropriate safety and quarantine checks
 - but any arrangements shouldn't impede our exporters' ability to trade in time-sensitive, high-value products.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports.
- These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products.
- We (DAWE/DFAT) will continue to liaise closely with industry to understand developments.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (162 - 170) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

BackgroundChinese trade actions against Australian exports

Date	Action
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

30 October	Live rocklobster detained by GACC for testing, resulting in loss of multiple consignments
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

China Trade**Prepared By:**

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

5-6 November	Notification from GACC that cadmium levels exceeding the allowable amount had been detected in two consignments of live rocklobster and that Australian lobster imports would receive 'enhanced inspection' (5 November)
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

In addition to the above, agricultural products, including s 22(1)(a)(ii) lobster, s 22(1)(a)(ii) have been subject to increased monitoring, including additional inspections and testing, customs clearance issues, and cancelled orders.
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australia raised our concerns about China's trade actions in the WTO's Council on Trade in Goods (CTG) on 25 November. s 33(a)(iii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (174 - 180) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Live rocklobster trade

Australia's exports of live rocklobster and other sea crawfish to China were valued at over \$711 million in CY2019, accounting for 96 per cent of Australian live rocklobster exports to the world.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

On 5 and 6 November, DAWE received notification from GACC that cadmium levels above the allowable amount had been detected in two consignments of Australia rocklobster from 4 October and 29 October. GACC also said 'enhanced inspection' of Australian lobster had been initiated (precise measures for 'enhanced inspection' were not explained).

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Industry previously reported on 19 August that Chinese importers had experienced difficulties in renewing their annual import licenses for Australian Rock Lobster with GACC. Australian exporters were moving to consignees that still had import quota available, which was expected to be sufficient until at least February 2021.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (183 - 197) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 7 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name:

Position: AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

China Trade

Contents

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If raised: What is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?.....10
s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (199 - 206) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 9 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name: Lina Wong

Position: A/g AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

If raised: What is the Australian Government doing about customs clearance issues for Australian live rocklobster exports China?

- Aware the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) has increased the testing rate on Australian live rocklobster imports.
- We have requested information about the testing regime and urgent assistance with clearance from the relevant Chinese authority, GACC, on the matter.
- We respect the right of any importing nation to undertake appropriate safety and quarantine checks
 - but any arrangements shouldn't impede our exporters' ability to trade in time-sensitive, high-value products.
- Australia has strong regulatory controls that underpin the biosecurity integrity and safety of our exports.
- These controls support Australia's global reputation as a reliable exporter of safe, wholesome and high-quality agricultural products.
- We (DAWE/DFAT) will continue to liaise closely with industry to understand developments.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (208 - 216) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 9 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name: Lina Wong

Position: A/g AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Background**Chinese trade actions against Australian exports**

Date	Action
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	
30 October	Live rocklobster detained by GACC for testing, resulting in loss of multiple consignments
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 9 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name: Lina Wong

Position: A/g AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

5-6 November	Notification from GACC that cadmium levels exceeding the allowable amount had been detected in two consignments of live rocklobster and that Australian lobster imports would receive 'enhanced inspection' (5 November)
--------------	--

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

In addition to the above, agricultural products, including s 22(1)(a)(ii) lobster, s 22(1)(a)(ii) have been subject to increased monitoring, including additional inspections and testing, customs clearance issues, and cancelled orders.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (219 - 227) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

Prepared By:

Name:

Branch: EEB

Phone:

Date: 9 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name: Lina Wong

Position: A/g AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Live rocklobster trade

Australia's exports of live rocklobster and other sea crawfish to China were valued at over \$711 million in CY2019, accounting for 96 per cent of Australian live rocklobster exports to the world.

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

On 5 and 6 November, DAWE received notification from GACC that cadmium levels above the allowable amount had been detected in two consignments of Australia rocklobster from 4 October and 29 October. GACC also said 'enhanced inspection' of Australian lobster had been initiated (precise measures for 'enhanced inspection' were not explained).

Industry previously reported on 19 August that Chinese importers had experienced difficulties in renewing their annual import licenses for Australian Rock Lobster with GACC. Australian

China Trade

Prepared By:

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Date: 9 December 2020

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Name: Lina Wong

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Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

exporters were moving to consignees that still had import quota available, which was expected to be sufficient until at least February 2021.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (230 - 244) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Trade

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prepared By:

Name: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Branch: EEB

Phone: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Date: 9 December 2020

Cleared By:

Name: Lina Wong

Position: A/g AS-EEB

Branch/Division: EEB/NAD

Phone:

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 11 December 2020 8:45 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) TradeFacilitation@industry.gov.au; Amy Guihot;
 Stuart Hogan; s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Elly Lawson; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 ; Andrew Jacenko; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Emily Luck; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Rachael
 Thompson; Jason Robertson; s 22(1)(a)(ii) roderick.brazier@pmc.gov.au; Frances
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 Rachel.Thompson@TREASURY.GOV.AU; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Michael
 Sadleir; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii) [REDACTED]awe.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Tony Huber; s 22(1)(a)(ii) Trade Policy Section; China Engagement;
 s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: Lachlan Crews; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 @austrade.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: China trade disruptions - Sitrep 19 [SEC= [REDACTED]]

[REDACTED]

Hi All,

Please see the update on China trade disruptions since 10 December (as at 5.00pm Beijing time).

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

s 33(a)(iii), s 33(b)

With thanks to Austrade and DAWE at China Posts.

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (247 - 254) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

11

s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au
s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au s 22(1)(a)(ii) @austrade.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

Subject: China trade disruptions - Sitrep 13 [SEC= [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi All,

Please see update on China trade disruptions since 17 November (as at 3.30pm Beijing time)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

There are also isolated and unverified reports that import permits for Australian rock lobster are being cancelled s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Highlights

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

More information

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (258 - 267) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Senate Estimates: November 2022

China Trade Actions and Impacts

Trade Actions and Impacts

[Handling note: Refer technical issues to DAFF, refer trade statistics to Chief Economist]

- The latest representation to China regarding trade blockages was made by Foreign Minister Wong to Chinese Foreign Minister, Wang Yi on September 24. Australian officials at various levels continue to raise trade blockages with Chinese counterparts regularly.

Commodity	Update
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

Senate Estimates: November 2022

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Senate Estimates: November 2022

s 22(1)(a)(ii)	Rock Lobster (Near-cessation of trade, only frozen product is still clearing) [In November 2020, GACC held all Australian live rock lobster exports on arrival for additional testing, following alleged detection of heavy metals above accepted levels. In response, Australian industry opted not to export to China due to increased inspection and testing of rock lobster causing delayed clearance and product loss. s 33(b) • We respect the right of any importing nation to undertake appropriate safety and quarantine checks – but any arrangements shouldn't be excessively burdensome and impede our exporters' ability to trade in highly perishable, high-value products. s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(b) DAFF continues to engage with Chinese authorities to gain further information about testing and inspection requirements for agricultural products at the border.
s 22(1)(a)(ii)	

Senate Estimates: November 2022

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 24 November 2022 10:56 AM
To: Lachlan Crews
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: BRIEFING PACK - Peak bodies China deep dive 24 Nov 2-3:30pm [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Peak Bodies Deep Dive 24 November 2022 - Agenda and Briefing (cleared) (002).docx; China Peak bodies - if raised Lachlan - CET CHX .docx; Key Exports to China - Detailed Trade Movements Table.docx; Peak Bodies Deep Dive 24 November 2022 - industry attendees.docx

OFFICIAL

Hi Lachlan

With thanks to CET, CHX (and DoR) - please find attached the briefing pack for your participation in this afternoon's Industry Peak Bodies China Deep Dive (2-3:30pm) which comprise:

- Agenda and briefing for Elly (including the script for her agenda item 'Strategic Overview of bilateral relations')
- 'If raised' for you – to support Elly in case she throws to you for additional comment and also in case useful for the Q&A session (noting Elly is scheduled to depart just before 3pm)
 - stats table 'Key Exports to China – Detailed Trade Movements' included also
- List of industry attendees (as at 9:30am 24 November).

I will bring round hard copies and please let me know if you need any additional material.

FYI – this is a virtual event, we're booking a room for you and Elly to join the call together.

Thanks
 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director | China Economic and Trade Section
 East Asia Economic Branch | East Asia Division
 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
 T s 22(1)(a)(ii) | M s 22(1)(a)(ii)

5.2 Key Goods Exports to China – Detailed Trade Movements

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Commodity	Trade Actions Timeline	Export values			Change	
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2021-22 vs 2019-20	2021-22 vs 2020-21

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Lobster 19th largest goods export to China (2019)	October/November 2020: GACC detains all Australian rocklobster on arrival for testing. In response, industry ceases exports until there is greater certainty on the new process. s 33(b)						
		China \$0.5 billion 93 per cent of total	China \$0.2 billion 46 per cent of total	China \$0.01 billion 2 per cent of total	China down -99 per cent (-\$0.5 billion)	China down -96 per cent (-\$0.2 billion)	
		Rest of World \$0.04 billion	Rest of World \$0.21 billion	Rest of World \$0.35 billion	Rest of World up 798 per cent (+\$0.3 billion)	Rest of World up 70 per cent (+\$0.1 billion)	
		World \$0.5 billion	World \$0.4 billion	World \$0.4 billion	World down -34 per cent	World down -6 per cent	

s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (278 - 279) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed

China Deep Dive – Peak Bodies

If raised for Lachlan

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If raised: specific commodities – s 22(1)(a)(ii)
lobster s 22(1)(a)(ii)

rock

Commodity	Update
s 22(1)(a)(ii) - This section and pages (283 - 284) are irrelevant and the following pages have been removed	

Rock Lobster (Near- cessation of trade^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}	[In November 2020, GACC held all Australian live rock lobster exports on arrival for additional testing, following alleged detection of heavy metals above accepted levels. In response, Australian industry opted not to export to China due to increased inspection and testing of rock lobster causing delayed clearance and product loss. ^{s 45, s 47E(d), s 47G(1)(a)} • We respect the right of any importing nation to undertake appropriate safety and quarantine checks – but any arrangements shouldn't be excessively burdensome and impede our exporters' ability to trade in highly perishable, high-value products. ^{s 33(a)(iii)} DAFF continues to engage with Chinese authorities to gain further information about testing and inspection requirements for agricultural products at the border.
^{s 22(1)(a)(ii)}	

Background

China's trade impediments

China has blocked a range of Australian exports to China since 2020 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

technical measures to block Australian goods on the grounds of contamination or other quality issues, affecting live rock lobsters, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

China will remain an important trade and investment partner for Australia. Australian businesses are encouraged to continue to engage with the China market, while appropriately accounting for risk.
s 33(a)(iii)