

## IMPORTATION UPDATE AS AT 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2010

**Following is an extract from Biosecurity Australia (Live Animal Imports – Horses, Livestock and Birds) in relation to the ongoing rumours that importation of budgerigars will be commencing within the year:**

Live parrots are currently not permitted entry into Australia from anywhere other than New Zealand (and then only genuine pets accompanying people who are emigrating to Australia from New Zealand).

Import conditions have not been developed for the importation of live parrots from any other country.

Biosecurity Australia is the agency responsible for risk assessment of new commodities.

Please note that once any risk assessment process starts, it is likely to take a period of years to complete.

Risk assessments are completed on a work priority basis, and it may take some years for a commodity to start being assessed. This request would need to go through the import access request system by way of Import Market Access Advisory Group (IMAAG).

Parrots are listed as Priority A for assessment by Biosecurity Australia but are not on the 2010 work plan. Conditions will not be finalised for at least 12 months, and possibly much longer.

Nigel Tonkin.