

Immediate issues

Carry over policy and legislation issues

BIOSECURITY

Biosecurity Amendment Bill 2002

1. The Biosecurity Amendment Bill 2002 is currently in the House awaiting its second reading. The policies to be implemented by the Bill will:
 - remove redundant provisions of the Forests Act resulting from the merger of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forestry;
 - make minor extensions or modifications to powers in the Act;
 - clarify the interface between the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Forests Act 1949 and the Wildlife Act 1953 relating to the management of organisms; and
 - clarify inconsistencies in the Act.
2. The amendments have arisen as a result of experience in using the Biosecurity Act and government decisions concerning responsibilities for administering pest management. The Primary Production Select Committee reported the bill back to the House in February 2002.