

RISK BACKGROUND

Fresh kiwifruit for human consumption

Overview



(Image: Schnettelker. C, (2014), *Kiwi*, <https://flic.kr/p/j92tzS> (CC BY 2.0))

Fresh kiwifruit (*Actinidia deliciosa*) and golden kiwifruit (*A. chinensis*) for human consumption, do not require an import permit but must be:

- sourced from New Zealand (NZ), France, Italy, Japan or the United States of America
- subject to pre-export inspection by the exporting country
- accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate
- securely packaged (i.e. insect proof)
- inspected on-arrival.

Fresh Kiwiberry (*A. argute*) for human consumption, may also be imported from NZ, subject to the conditions listed above.

Importers and department staff should ensure that the BICON conditions are met and that fruit is free from biosecurity risks, as well as the key risks described below.

Key risks

Fruit flies and drosophila flies

Fresh kiwifruit are a host of fruit flies such as Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*), Oriental fruit fly (*Bactrocera dorsalis*) and spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*). These insects are [national plant priority pests](#) for Australia as they are highly invasive due to their wide host range and potential to enter, establish and spread through the movement of infected fruit. Eggs are laid below the skin of host fruit where larvae feed and develop. Some necrosis may occur around the puncture site on affected fruit.

Depending on the country of export, the risk of fruit fly and drosophila flies in imported kiwifruit is addressed through cold treatment or by sourcing fruit from areas or countries that are free from these pests. As New Zealand is free from fruit flies of economic concern, risk management measures for this pest are not required.

Other pathway risks

Imports of fresh kiwifruit may contain a range of other biosecurity risk material including live insects, disease symptoms and contaminants such as soil, weed seeds, hitchhiker pests and trash. A significant hitchhiker pest of concerns is the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) (*Halyomorpha halys*). BMSB is a national plant priority pest for Australia due to the potential damage it may cause to a large range of plants and is present in several countries that export kiwifruit to Australia. These biosecurity risks are mitigated through import conditions listed above.