

RISK BACKGROUND

Fresh Cut flowers and foliage – *Hypericum* spp. fruit

Key risks

Hypericum spp. imported as fresh cut flowers and foliage with fruit (berries) may contain viable seed which pose a weed risk and disease risk to Australia.

The berries used by the floral industry are immature and contain only non-viable seeds. These berries can be in different colours (for example red, pink, green, yellow, etc). The risk associated with seeds are applicable only to mature berries. However, these are not intentionally imported.

Mature berries appear dried, without any moisture and seeds can be easily dispersed and may be viable.

Only Immature fruit with non-viable seeds are permitted.

Image 1: Example of opened immature *Hypericum* spp. fruit containing non-viable seeds

