RISK BACKGROUND

Fresh mustard stick, betel leaves and paan leaves (*Piper betel*) for human consumption

Overview



(Image: Basil and Tracy Brooks, (2016), Betel Leaf, https://flic.kr/p/Dr9F5J (CC BY-NC 2.0))

Fresh mustard stick, betel leaves and paan leaves (*Piper betel*) for human consumption, do not require an import permit but must be:

- a permitted plant part only
- subject to pre-export inspection by the exporting country
- accompanied by an original phytosanitary certificate
- securely packaged (i.e. insect proof)
- inspected on-arrival.

Importers and department staff should ensure that BICON conditions are met and that goods are free from the biosecurity risks described below.

Key risks

Imports of fresh mustard stick, betel leaves and paan leaves for human consumption may harbour biosecurity risk material including live insects (such as mites and mealybugs), disease symptoms and contaminants such as weed seeds, hitchhiker pests and trash. These risks are managed through phytosanitary certification and inspection on arrival.