



Australian Government

**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

Review of import conditions for used machinery

Cover Sheet

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**Australian Government Department of Agriculture
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VACC Submission Import Conditions for used machinery



Managing biosecurity in Australia is critical in the agricultural sector as our reputation as a provider of quality food products to world markets must be retained.

Feedback from Farm and Machinery enterprises who are deeply involved in day to day activities in the rural community is as follows.

1. Importing of used agricultural machinery into Australia should be prohibited.
2. It is impossible to clean a machine of all plant and soil material unless it is completely disassembled and even then there is high risk.
3. A recent example regarding a set of demonstration hay mowers moved from Western Australia to Victoria, cleaned very thoroughly, passing an inspection. When reassembled traces of plant and soil were noted, hidden away in crevices of the device, not penetrated by high pressure cleaning and disinfectant.
4. Variation in inspection and cleaning can occur on import.

Summary

For the greater good of the agricultural sector, protecting bio security far outweighs the small gain by a few by importing low cost used agricultural equipment.