



# Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Trade to resume to South Korea as fruit fly free status recognised

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Richard Colbeck has announced that South Korea has recognised mainland Tasmania as fruit fly free and trade of fruit can resume to the country.

**Assistant Minister Colbeck:** “This is good news for our exporters who were in the affected zones because they have regained market access to South Korea for their produce at a critical harvest time.

“South Korea is satisfied that mainland Tasmania is fruit fly free, having assessed our data and finding that there is no contamination risk to Tasmanian fruit.

“The Australian Government has been communicating with trading partners in the lead up to 9 January, however decisions on market access are for our trading partners to make based on their own assessments and timeframes.

“Each of our trading partners is quite different and may require different levels of detail and technical data, which is reflected in our various market access protocols.

“The Australia Government continues to work closely with the Tasmanian Government.

“Our trading partners take their biosecurity very seriously like we do – we understand the value of it so we need to respect their protocols and biosecurity as we ask them to respect ours.

“Decisions on market access are for our trading partners to make and based on their own assessments and timetables.

“It is a good sign that a major protocol nation like South Korea recognises that Tasmania is fruit fly free and I look forward to continuing discussions with other protocol nations in due course.”

ENDS

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