



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 Japan as fruit fly free status recognised

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

Assistant Minister Colbeck: “Regaining market access to Japan is a major breakthrough as Tasmania seeks to have its fruit fly free status recognised among our trading partners.”

“Japan is a strong premium horticulture export destination and they also have some of the strictest technical requirements for their protocols in the world.

“This decision is particularly important for crops soon to be harvested, including apples, so it is a very welcome development.

“Japan has acknowledged that our procedures for fruit fly detection and monitoring are fundamentally sound.

“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 to ensure this data is available.

“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 – further updates will be available as our trading partners finalise their assessments.

“It is a good sign that a major protocol nation like Japan 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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