# Preserved and fixed animal and human specimens

## Case Description

Effective: 9 November 2021

This case describes the requirements for the importation of animal and human specimens that are preserved or fixed, for end uses other than fertiliser, animal feed or growing purposes. This may include specimens such as phytoplankton, zooplankton, preserved or fixed insects and arachnids, dead or preserved bees and preserved or fixed animal or human specimens, including specimens in resin. This case excludes oyster shells.

For the import of fixed specimens on glass or plastic slides, please refer to the BICON case Microscope slides.

Import Destination: Australia

People bringing chemically fixed animal specimens into Australian territory should contact their carrier/postal agent for information on any specific transport restrictions that may apply to these goods.

## Alerts

There are no current alerts applicable to this import case. Users should be aware that alerts can have significant impact on import conditions and, as such, should check this import case on the BICON website regularly.

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# Import Scenario Definition

# 1. Other animal and invertebrate specimens — Preserved in 70% alcohol, 10% formalin, 4% formaldehyde or 2% glutaraldehyde

## 1.1. Import Requirements

a. A Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment import permit is not required.

b. **Commercial administrative conditions**
Documents must be provided with each consignment which:

1. identify the consignment (if non-personal) e.g. entry number
2. identify all goods being imported as part of this consignment e.g. invoice or waybill or importer's manifest
3. describe the goods being imported (where not clear).
   e.g. 1: Product XRab = Purified protein derived from rabbits
   e.g. 2: Product AX = Synthetic antibiotic
   e.g. 3: Comte = Cheese.

c. The goods must have been preserved and fixed correctly by a Department approved method.
To demonstrate compliance with this requirement you must present the following on a Manufacturer's declaration:
Details that the specimens were preserved and fixed using one of the following methods:

1. alcohol (70%), or
2. formalin (10%), or
3. formaldehyde (4%), or
4. glutaraldehyde (minimum of 2%), or
5. plastinated using curable polymers.

The declaration must be issued by the individual or facility that preserved the tissue confirming the treatment method used to ensure complete preservation and fixation. The declaration must be specific to the specimen being imported by making reference to label information or by providing a description of the tissue in the container which allows biosecurity officers to identify the specimen. It is not a requirement for the specimen to be transported in the fixative or preservative.

d. The container must be reliably sealed.

e. These conditions do not allow for the import of:

1. specimens to be used for research or analysis involving live animals i.e. no animal is to be exposed directly or indirectly to the specimen or any of its derivatives.
2. specimens to be used for isolation or synthesis of viable microorganisms or infectious agents or their homologues.
3. specimens containing oyster shell.

f. Under the Biosecurity Charges Imposition (General) Regulation 2016 and Chapter 9, Part 2 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016, fees are payable to the Department of Agriculture,

Water and the Environment for all services. Detail on how the department applies fees and levies may be found in the Charging guidelines.

g. In addition to the conditions for the goods being imported, non-commodity concerns must be assessed including container cleanliness, packaging and destination concerns, and may be subject to inspection and treatment on arrival. Please refer to the Non-Commodity Cargo Clearance BICON case for further information.

This commodity may contain animal derived material that may require a wildlife trade permit and/or other approvals from the Wildlife Trade Regulation section. More information is available on the International wildlife trade webpage.

# Appendix 1: Documentation Requirements

The information below describes the requirements for documentation presented to the Department of Agriculture to support the risk assessment of imported goods.

### Manufacturer's declaration

A declaration provided by the manufacturer of the goods, which is specific to the goods in the consignment and attests to the condition/processing/treatment of the goods.

A manufacturer is the entity that has made/manufactured/produced/processed the goods that are being imported.

This document must meet the relevant overarching and consignment-specific requirements outlined below.

a. **Complete -** All prescribed information required to be on a document must be present and complete. Additional prescribed information below:
   1. The document must have been issued and dated within the last six months, unless otherwise specified.
   2. The document must be on the manufacturing company's letterhead and include their name and address.
   3. Declarations must include the employee name and their title within the company of the person issuing the document.
   4. The document must contain the correct statement(s) as required by the import conditions.
   5. The document must be specific to the good(s) and consignment unless otherwise stated in BICON, an import permit, or the department's website for food subject to the Imported Food Inspection Scheme.
   6. Declarations will only be accepted from the company that manufactured/produced the goods (either the specific site or head office within the country of export) unless stated otherwise.

b. **Legible** - All prescribed information required to be on a document must be legible.

c. **Valid** - Many documents, such as import permits, are subject to a validity period. Presented documents must comply with the validity requirements specified for that class of document.

d. **In English** - All prescribed information required to be on a document must be in English. Exceptions to this rule include:
   1. company letterheads do not need to be translated into English but must be in English characters (roman alphabet).
   2. commercial, transport and government certification that are required to comply with international standard formats.
   3. signatures and names of individuals.

   Where a document cannot be provided in English, an affidavit will be accepted from either:
   1. that country’s consulate in Australia.
   2. the Australian embassy in the place of origin.

3. a translator accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters Ltd.

e. **Free from erasures and alterations** - All prescribed information on a document must be free from erasures and alterations unless endorsed by an employee of the company who issued the document, or an authorised government official from the government department who issued a certificate. The only acceptable endorsement is a company stamp or seal signed by the company employee (including printed name) or a government stamp or seal signed by a government employee (including printed name) applied adjacent to the alteration.

f. **Multiple page documents** - Multi page document must:

- include a consignment-specific link on all pages of the document.
  For example, commercial invoices (or similar) must contain the documents individual reference number (e.g. invoice number) or a numerical link on each page of the document.
- contain an endorsement on the final page of the document, following the information that is being endorsed.

Where a government issued document has noted attachments, the attachments can follow the endorsement. Where an international standard relating to the issuing of veterinary, government or phytosanitary certification does not explicitly require a link on each page of a multiple page certificate, the department will accept the document linkage on the first page of the certificate. For further information about international standards for veterinary, government and phytosanitary certificates please refer to sections 4.3.3, 4.3.4 and 4.3.5 of this policy.

Where a non-government issued document has noted attachments, the attachments are required to meet all of the overarching document requirements contained in section 1 of this policy inclusive of endorsement.

g. **Endorsed** - Unless otherwise stated in BICON, on an import permit or on the department's website for food subject to the Imported Food Inspection Scheme, all documents must be endorsed by an employee of the organisation, corporation, or government authority issuing the document. An endorsement must:

1. be an acceptable signature, electronic signature or stamp as defined in the Definitions section of this policy.
2. appear after the information that the signatory is endorsing.

Where a document has noted attachments, the endorsement can be made before the attachments, refer to section 1.6 of this policy.

h. **Date of issue** - All documents must identify the date the document was issued including the day, month and year. Packing declarations may contain vessel/voyage number which can be used if a date of issue is not present on the document.

i. **Consignment specific link -** All documents that are relied on to assess the level of biosecurity risk must have a unique consignment-specific link. Examples of consignment identification include:

- container numbers
- bill numbers

- commercial invoice numbers
- lot codes
- preferential tariff certificate numbers
- packing list numbers
- letter of credit numbers.

Where a document does not contain one of the accepted forms of consignment identification, a numerical link to another document that does contain appropriate consignment identification must be present.

Examples of acceptable numerical links include:

- order numbers
- reference numbers
- any other internal reference numbers used by overseas companies
- vessel/voyage references
- flight number and arrival date.

Numerical links alone cannot be used as consignment identification links.

Unacceptable numerical links are references that could be present in previous or subsequent consignments and relate to a model, type or standardised item number. Examples of unacceptable numerical links include:

- number of packages
- weights
- dates
- stockkeeping unit
- item codes.

Note[1]: Annual packing declarations and Imported Food Inspection Scheme importer declarations are exempt from having consignment-specific links.

Note[2]: For acceptable consignment identification on phytosanitary certificates refer to sections 4 and 5 of ISPM 12.

j. **Conflicting information on documents** - Where there is conflicting information contained within a document, the document must not be accepted. Conflicting information occurs when prescribed information on one part of the document conflicts with other prescribed information on the same document.

For further information, please refer to the Minimum documentary and import declaration requirements policy.

# Appendix 2: Document Options

**Context & Inclusions**

User Context: External

- ☼ Appendix - Annexes
- ☼ Appendix – Documentation Requirements
- ❄ Appendix - Glossary
- ❄ Appendix – Questions and Answers
- ❄ Appendix – Rationale
- ❄ Appendix – References (Files and URLs)
- ☼ Appendix – Scientific Names
- ❄ Element Identifiers
- ☼ What's Changed
- ❄ Onshore Management
- ❄ Main Processing Path Only
- ❄ Procedures

**Authoring Aids & Outputs**

Output Format: PDF

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# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS



## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1.1** | **Product:** | Biological sample (Penaeid prawn tissue) preserved in 70% Ethanol |
| **1.2** | **Shipping Name:** | Ethanol solution |
| **1.3** | **Recommended Use:** | Specimen fixated |
| **1.4** | **Responsible Person:** | Genics Pty Ltd |
| **1.5** | **A.B.N:** | 86.623.276.586 |
| **1.6** | **Address:** | Gehrmann Laboratories, Level 5, 60 Research Road, University of Queensland, St Lucia, QLD 4067 AUSTRALIA |
| **1.7** | **Telephone Number:** | 1300 895 515 |
| **1.8** | **Emergency Telephone Numbers:** | +61 437 025 821 |

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

**Hazardous Chemical According to GHS:**

GHS Flammable liquid – Category 2,
Eye irritation – Category 2A

**Dangerous good according to the Australian code for the transport of dangerous goods by road rail**

**Signal word: DANGER**

**GHS Classification:**

Flammable liquid Category 2
Serious eye irritation Category 2A

**Pictogram**

GHS02 GHS07

**Biological Hazard:**

Nil (non-infectious fixed tissue for research or diagnostic purposes only)

**Precautionary statements**

**General**
**P102** Keep out of the reach of children

| | |
|---|---|
| *PREVENTATIVE* | |
| P210 | Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No smoking |
| P233 | Keep container tightly closed |
| P240 | Ground/bond container and receiving equipment |
| P241 | Use explosion-proof electrical/ventilation/lighting equipment |
| P242 | Use only non-sparking tools |
| P243 | Take precautionary measures against static discharge |
| P264 | Wash thoroughly after handling |
| P280 | Wear protective gloves/eye protection/face protection |
| *RESPONSE* | |
| P303 + P361 + P353 | IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. Rinse skin with water/shower |
| P305 + P351 + P338 | IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing |
| P337 + P313 | If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention |
| P370 + P378 | In case of fire: Use foam/water spray/fog for extinction |
| *STORAGE* | |
| P403 + P235 | Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep cool |
| *DISPOSAL* | |
| P501 | Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local regulations |

## 3. COMPOSITION

| Chemical Name | CAS Number | Proportion % |
|---|---|---|
| Ethanol 70% | 64-17-5 | 80.00 – 90.00 |
| Biological material (Penaeid prawn tissue) | Nil | 10.00 – 20.00 |

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

**Description of Necessary First Aid Measures**

**4.1** If any irritation occurs or persists from any route of exposure, remove the affected individual from the area. Ensure supply of fresh air. See a physician / get medical attention.

**Ingestion:** Do not induce vomiting. Drink plenty of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Seek medical advice.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Eye:** | In normal conditions, the product is not particularly dangerous. If direct contact with eyes, may cause irritation. Rinse with plenty clean water. |
| **Skin:** | No reaction in normal conditions. If irritation occurs, wash with plenty of water and discontinue use. |
| **Inhalation:** | No reaction in normal conditions. If irritation occurs, discontinue use. |

**4.2 Medical Attention and Special Treatment**

| | |
|---|---|
| **First Aid Facilities:** | Maintain eye wash station and safety shower in work area. |
| **Comments:** | Treatment according to the patient's condition & specific exposure. |
| **Advice to Doctor:** | Symptomatic treatment |

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **5.1** | **Suitable Extinguishing Media:** | Water, fog, carbon dioxide or dry chemical powder. |
| **5.2** | **Hazards From Combustion Products:** | Not Applicable. |
| **5.3** | **Special Protective Precautions and Equipment For Fire Fighters:** | Not Applicable |
| **5.4** | **Hazchem Code:** | •2YE. |

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **6.1** | **Emergency Procedures:** | Dike spillage to prevent spillage into streams or sewer systems. |
| **6.2** | **Methods and Materials for Containment and Clean Up:** | Use personal / protective equipment. Absorb and/or sweep the spillage for disposal. Clean contaminated surface thoroughly. |

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **7.1** | **Precautions for Safe Handling:** | For external use only. Avoid contact with eyes. Keep out of reach of children. Do not use on broken skin. |
| **7.2** | **Conditions for Safe Storage:** | Keep in a dry, cool place. Protect from heat & freezing. Keep away from sources of ignition and naked flame. |

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

**Exposure control measures**

From National Occupational Health & Safety Commission (NOHSC) Worksafe Australia - Ethanol: 1880mg/m³ (1000ppm) TWA (8hr)

**Biological monitoring**

No biological limit allocated.

**Engineering controls**

Ensure that adequate ventilation is provided. Maintain air concentrations below recommended exposure standards. Avoid generating and inhaling mists and vapours. Keep containers closed when not in use.

**Individual protection measures**

| | |
|---|---|
| Eye and face protection: | Wear safety goggles. |
| Skin protection: | Use solvent resistant gloves, nitrile for longer term protection or PVC and neoprene for incidental splashes. |
| Respiratory protection: | If work practices do not maintain airborne level below the exposure standard, use appropriate respiratory protection equipment. When using respirators, select an appropriate combination of mask and filter. Select a filter for organic gases and vapours (boiling point > 65°C). Respirators should comply with AS1716 or an equivalent approved by a state/territory authority. |
| Thermal hazards: | Not applicable. |

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**9.1 Physical Description / Properties**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Appearance:** | Clear liquid, colourless to light yellow |
| **Odour:** | Alcohol odour |
| **Specific Gravity (@ 25°C):** | 0.811 – 0.861 |
| **Flash Point (°C):** | 13°C ASTM D93 |

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# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS



## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **10.1** | **Chemical Stability:** | Stable under normal conditions. |
| **10.2** | **Conditions To Avoid:** | Strong acids, strong oxidizers, strong bases, halogens and aldehydes, heat and spark flames. |
| **10.3** | **Incompatible Materials:** | Strong acids, strong oxidizers, strong bases. |
| **10.4** | **Hazardous Decomposition Products:** | If used under normal conditions, no hazardous product decomposition. |
| **10.5** | **Hazardous Reactions:** | If used under normal conditions, no hazardous reactions. |

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**11.1 Likely Route of Exposure:** Eyes / Skin / Inhalation / Ingestion

**11.2 Health Effects From Likely Route of Exposure:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Eye:** | In normal conditions, the product is not particularly dangerous. If direct contact with eyes, may cause irritation. Rinse with plenty clean water. |
| **Skin:** | No reaction in normal conditions. If irritation occurs, wash with plenty of water and discontinue use. |
| **Inhalation:** | No reaction in normal conditions. If irritation occurs, discontinue use. |
| **Chronic Effects:** | It is not expected to have chronic health effects. |
| **Ingestion:** | Do not induce vomiting. Drink plenty of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Seek medical advice. |

**11.3 Additional Information:** No

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **12.1** | **Ecotoxicity:** | If spilled on soil, ethanol will either evaporate or leach into the ground due to the relatively high vapour pressure and low adsorption in soil. |
| | **Bioaccumulation:** | It will biodegrade, probably to acetic acid and formaldehyde. Ethanol will volatilise from water and biodegrade and is not expected to bioconcentrate. |
| **12.2** | **Persistence and degradability:** | It will photodegrade in air with a half-life ranging from hours (polluted air) to days (clean air). |
| **12.3** | **Environmental Fate:** | Low impact. |

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **13.1** | **Disposal Method:** | For small amounts absorb with sand, vermiculite or similar and dispose of to an approved landfill site. Prevent contamination of drains and waterways as aquatic life may be threatened and environmental damage may result. Dispose of according to local, state and federal regulations. |
| **13.2** | **Special Precautions for Landfill or Incineration:** | No applicable information |

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# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS



## 14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **14.1** | **Shipping Number:** | UN 1170 |
| **14.2** | **Shipping Name:** | Ethanol solution |
| **14.3** | **Dangerous Goods Class:** | 3 |
| | **Packing Group:** | II |
| **14.4** | **HAZCHEM Code:** | •2YE |
| | **Additional Shipping Information:** | For Air transport, Ethanol is used to fix the tissue and complies with the requirements of Special Provision A180.<br>Exempt animal specimen Not restricted. Special Provision A180. |

## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **15.1** | **SUSDP Poisons Schedule:** | Not Applicable |
| **15.2** | **Prohibition / Licensing Requirements:** | Refer to ATO permit requirements for Concessional Spirits. |

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **16.1** | **Issue Date:** | 15 December 2021 |

**DOCUMENT END**

The information in this data sheet is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate, but all data, instructions and/or suggestions are made without guarantee. These statements are solely for the above-mentioned product and should help to take adequate safety precautions.