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INFORMATION ON DEER VELVET LEVY AND EXPORT CHARGE

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

The following is taken from an information sheet put out by the DAFF. It is meant as a guide only and does not substitute for the relevant legislation.

IMPORTANT - Deer Velvet Return - NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Levies Revenue Service (LRS) has streamlined the process for lodgement of Levy Returns through the new Levies Online system. The Levies Revenue Service's preferred method of lodging returns is online as it enables real time accurate processing of returns and access to online return history. Please contact your state office for more information on how to lodge your levy return through Levies Online. Alternatively, you can go direct to www.leviesonline.daff.gov.au/LRSONLINE and lodge your return.

A Levy is paid on deer velvet produced in Australia and sold by the producer or used by or on behalf of the producer in the production of other goods. Export Charge is payable on deer velvet produced in and exported from Australia. **NO** Export Charge is payable if domestic levy has already been paid on the deer velvet to be exported.

The producer (the person who owns the deer velvet immediately before it is sold, or if the deer velvet is used in the production of other goods, the person who owns the deer velvet immediately before the goods are produced) is liable to pay the levy.

Where a producer sells the deer velvet via an intermediary, such as a first purchaser, buying agent, selling agent or processor the intermediary is liable to pay the levy on behalf of the producer. The intermediary must forward the levy to LRS along with return forms that are available from all LRS offices or by accessing the LRS website at www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/levies. The intermediary can recover the amount of levy paid from the producer, by offset or otherwise.

In the case of the Export Charge, the producer, defined as the person who exports the deer velvet from Australia (the owner of the deer velvet at the time of export), is liable to pay the charge. This person must forward export charge to the Levies Revenue Service (LRS) along with return forms. If the deer velvet is exported through an exporting agent, the agent is liable to pay the charge on behalf of the producer and submit it along with return forms to LRS. The exporting agent can recover the amount of charge paid from the producer (the owner of the product at the time of export).

Producers who use deer velvet in the production of other goods must forward the levy and return forms to LRS directly.

The rate of levy and export charge is calculated as follows:

Domestic:

Sale of deer velvet - 1% of the sale value of the deer velvet;

Deer velvet used in producing other goods - 1% of the declared value of the deer velvet;

Export: 1% of the declared value of the deer velvet.

Note: Levy Rates are current as at 1 October 2011.

Australian Government levies exclude Goods and Services Tax (GST)

People who lodge returns to LRS and people who pay levy/charge to intermediaries are required to keep records supporting the information supplied in returns or information relating to payments made to intermediaries. These records are to be kept for a period of five (5) years and are to be made available to LRS officers.

For further information or clarification on what records must be kept, who should keep them and for how long please contact your nearest LRS office.

Details for Electronic Funds Transfer - the preferred method of payment.

Transfer your payment to the following bank account:

Bank: Reserve Bank of Australia

BSB: 092009

Account Number: 111700

Account Name: AFFA Official Administered Receipts

Reference: Please enter the prefix LRS followed by your LRS Account Number and your business name in the reference/description. (e.g. LRS12345 AZ Wholesale)

Levies...

Levies from the 1st October, 2011 are as follows:

Venison Levy 8cents/kg

Velvet Levy 1% of sale value

Export Animal Levy \$5.00 / animal