

**National Phylloxera  
Management Protocol:  
Procedures for the  
upgrading of phylloxera  
zone status**

**National Vine Health Steering Committee  
(NVHSC – October 2009)**

# ***Procedures for the upgrading of the phylloxera zone status of grapegrowing regions in Australia***

## **1.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to describe the principles of operation and standards required and the responsibilities and practices of personnel that apply to the upgrading of *Phylloxera* zone status of grape growing districts in Australia.

## **2.0 Scope**

The scope of this procedure is for the orderly transition of a region from a PIZ or PRZ status to a PEZ status. It does not include consideration of the requirements that apply where the PEZ status of a region is lost.

## **3.0 References**

**3.1 NVHSC National Protocol: definitions of phylloxera management zones**

**3.2 NVHSC National Protocol: movement procedures for phylloxera risk vectors**

**3.3 NVHSC National Protocol: status upgrade procedures (remote sensing)**

**3.4 Appendix 1: questionnaire**

**3.5 Appendix 2: vineyard survey procedures**

## 4.0 Definitions

Accredited Survey Group	Means an individual or group that can demonstrate satisfactory competence in <i>Phylloxera</i> identification and survey procedures with current accreditation from a state agency.
Department of Agriculture	Means the department of Primary Industries and Resources South Australia or Department of Agriculture NSW or Department of Primary Industries Victoria and other States and Territories Agricultural Departments
<i>Phylloxera</i> Exclusion Zone (PEZ)	Means a known and gazetted <i>Phylloxera</i> free area, protected by regulation under State legislation, as recognised by the NVHSC
<i>Phylloxera</i> Infested Zone (PIZ)	Means the declared <i>Phylloxera</i> infested areas under State legislation, as recognised by the NVHSC
<i>Phylloxera</i> Risk Zone (PRZ)	Means areas other than a PIZ or PEZ
Steering Group	Means a State Organisation or Committee formed within a district association to plan and manage the requirements of this operational procedure.

## 5.0 Responsibilities

### 5.1 *Steering Group is responsible for:*

- defining the boundaries of the district;
- compiling details of vineyards operating in the defined areas (see appendix 1)
- identifying high risk non-commercial vines for surveying
- coordinating the activities of members for effective implementation of the program;
- provision of funding;
- developing the program strategy;
- developing an annual survey program;
- arranging for an accredited group to undertake surveys;
- liaison with industry, government and community for effective delivery of the program
- management and implementation of the program, and
- providing reports of annual surveys to the Department of Agriculture and the National Vine Health Steering Committee

**Note:** This document should be read in conjunction with the following supporting documents:

- *Appendix 1: questionnaire* - has been developed to assist the Steering Group to compile the necessary information to allow the State Department of Agriculture to approve and present the program documentation to the National Vine Health Steering Committee for endorsement
- *Appendix 2: vineyard surveys* – gives details of methodology to be used in conducting ground surveys for phylloxera.

**5.2 District Grape Growers are responsible for:**

- supporting the Steering Group
- supplying accurate information requested by the Steering Group
- permitting surveys to be conducted on their properties
- adhering to the program protocols

**5.3 Accredited Survey Groups are responsible for:**

- undertaking *Phylloxera* surveys as required under the program;
- providing reports on the results of surveys to the Steering Group - see Attachment 2

**5.4 Departments of Agriculture are responsible for:**

- reviewing and approving the program developed by the Steering Group;
- presenting the program to the National Vine Health Steering Committee (NVHSC) for endorsement;
- providing legislative and operational support for effective operation of the zone;
- assessing the implementation of the program through regular audits; and
- recommending to the NVHSC endorsement of the *Phylloxera* status of the District

**5.5 The National Vine Health Steering Committee is responsible for**

- endorsing district programs and the phylloxera management status of grape growing districts

*Note: The declaration of district status is the legislative responsibility of the relevant State or Territory Government*

## **6.0 Requirements**

### **6.1 *General Criteria for Confirmation, Maintenance and Changing Phylloxera Status of Districts***

- 6.1.1 A District Steering Group must be established within the local industry Association
- 6.1.2 The Steering Group is responsible for securing support from vineyard owners within the participating district and obtaining funding for the program, including surveys
- 6.1.3 The Steering Group must compile the following information:
- boundaries of existing or proposed area based on LGA or other criteria (minimum size is a “shire” or equivalent);
  - details of the areas of vineyards planted within the boundaries;
  - grower lists;
  - for each vineyard a complete Vineyard Survey sheet;
  - survey plan for the district based on the *Survey Criteria* for commercial vineyards and other planting's;
  - nomination of Accredited Survey Group;
  - details of consultation, eg. with their state industry association and local government bodies for acceptance
  - details of the proposed community awareness program.
- 6.1.4 Following acceptance by the District the Steering Group must submit the information to their State Department of Agriculture for:
- approval of the proposal and documentation;
  - notification to NVHSC for endorsement for the program;
  - revision of legislation to regulate grape material machinery and soil movements; and
  - agreement between Department and District on supervision and audit of procedures.

## 6.2. Implementation of Program

### 6.2.1 General requirements for confirming or changing the zone status

Existing PEZ	Transition from PRZ to PEZ (standard)	Transition from PIZ to PRZ
<p>Status confirmed through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) demonstrated maintenance of appropriate regulations / legislation regarding entry criteria</li> <li>2) Demonstrated efforts to ensure a high level of industry and public awareness of the regulations</li> <li>3) Requirements in state legislation that any infestation / violation of regulations be reported</li> </ol>	<p>Adoption of the General Criteria for a minimum three year program <i>To be based on assessment of vine material and grape product movement history.</i></p>	<p>Adoption of the General Criteria for three year program.  <i>NB An additional subsequent three year program at least is required to move to a PEZ</i></p>
Transition from PRZ to PEZ (emerging regions)		
<p>Emerging region defined as: <i>An area defined by boundary that has limited plantings of grapevines up to five years in age and a maximum of 500 hectares in total, and is more than 40km from a known infested vineyard.</i></p> <p>As for all regions seeking PEZ status, an emerging region must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Be a minimum size of a "shire" or equivalent</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Have demonstrated support of all growers in region (including nurseries where applicable)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Pre-requisites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No evidence of existence of vines prior to development of current vineyards</li> <li>➤ Documented proof of planting material origin and health status (must come from PEZ and/or have been hot water treated)</li> <li>➤ Existing written and supported SOPs relating to movement protocols for labour, machinery and vineyard materials – fully documented from time of first plantings</li> <li>➤ Ongoing adherence to PEZ protocols</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: partial compliance with above requirements is not sufficient – otherwise full adherence to the standard program is required.</i></p>	<p>Survey program: <i>Surveys for ONE year of all vines over two years old</i></p>

## **6.2.2 Survey requirements (standard program)**

### Year 1

- Conduct first year surveys and if negative:
- Application of relevant national and local protocols (vines, machinery grape products and soil) including those that apply to general plant nurseries
- Initiate a community and industry awareness program in the district

### Year 2 and 3

- Continuation of the survey program
- If negative and program effectively implemented (demonstrated through audit) refer to the National Vine Health Steering Committee by Department of Agriculture for approval of the Phylloxera status of district.
- If not effectively implemented then the program would be extended for a further year.

## **6.2.3 Survey requirements (alternative program)**

### Year 1

- Conduct first year surveys and if negative:
- Application of relevant national and local protocols (vines, machinery grape products and soil) including those that apply to general plant nurseries
- Initiate a community and industry awareness program in the district

### Year 3

- Repeat the survey program with high risk vineyards (see Operational Procedure) being surveyed at a higher intensity than low risk vineyards
- If negative and program effectively implemented (demonstrated through audit) refer to the National Vine Health Steering Committee by Department of Agriculture for approval of the Phylloxera status of district.
- If not effectively implemented then the program would be extended for a further year.

## **6.2.4 Survey requirements (alternative program incorporating aerial surveying)**

*See Status Upgrade Procedures (remote sensing)*

## **7.0 Operational Procedures**

### **7.1 Surveys**

#### **7.1.1 Aerial Surveys**

*See Status Upgrade Procedures (remote sensing)*

### 7.1.2 Ground Surveys

	<b>Commercial Plantings</b>	<b>Non-commercial Plantings</b>
Upgrade status – standard program	<p>Survey all vineyards for three consecutive years.</p> <p>Survey vineyards as per attachment 2: a single vine in every 5<sup>th</sup> panel in every 3<sup>rd</sup> row.</p> <p>All visibly weak vines are to be surveyed.</p>	<p>Undertake an inspection of any high risk vines in household blocks, wineries and amenity areas.</p>
Upgrade status – alternative program	<p>Survey all vineyards twice over a three year period.</p> <p>Survey low risk vineyards as per attachment 2: a single vine in every 5<sup>th</sup> panel in every 3<sup>rd</sup> row.</p> <p>All visibly weak vines are to be surveyed.</p>	<p>Undertake an inspection of any high risk vines in household blocks, wineries and amenity areas.</p>

Note: sampling can be carried out from flowering until the soil temperature falls below 18°C at 10cm soil depth – as long as there are feeder roots present. This equates *approximately* to the time period from November to April in most regions.

Refer to Appendix 2: *Ground survey protocol* for detailed operational survey methodology.