

12 October 2017



AUSTRALIAN
**Prawn
Farmers**
ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Australian Prawn Farmers Association (APFA) welcomes the news by Acting Agriculture Minister Dr Anthony Lynham, advising the latest testing for white spot has shown as negative from 38 locations from Moreton Bay to Cairns, including the Logan River and Brisbane River.

However, the President of APFA Mr Matt West, said APFA remain cautiously optimistic.

“This is certainly the news we want to hear after all the emotional and financial heartache our members and stakeholders have been through over the last 11 months, particularly the Logan farmers,” Matt West said.

“However, as raw prawns are still being imported from overseas, our farmers continue to be proactive in implementing enhanced biosecurity measures on their farms. But on-farm measures can only go so far and we urge government to protect our borders, and the public to remain vigilant regarding the use of prawns as bait, or throwing seafood scraps in our waterways.”

The ‘Be a mate and check your bait’ campaign by the Queensland State Government is an important initiative aimed at keeping imported prawns out of our waterways. Imported prawns and seafood scraps can introduce serious diseases like what we have seen with the white spot incursion, and can devastate not only aquaculture industries, but our natural environment as well.

“There is still a lot more work to be done by both levels of government in collaboration with Industry to address the current risks” advised Mr West, “but we are pleased government is on the journey with us in protecting the prawn industry and Australian prawn farmers, so we can continue to deliver fresh quality Australian prawns to local businesses and the Australian public.”

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