

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio

Inquiry: Commercial Greyhound Export and Import Prohibition Bill 2021

Question No: IQ23-000261

Hearing Date: 15 September 2023

Division/Agency: Traceability Plant and Live Exports Division (TPLED) G2

Topic: Inquiry Written Question 1

Hansard Page:

Question Date: 26 September 2023

Question Type: Written

Senator Dr Mehreen Faruqi asked:

1. What processes if any does the Department have to monitor the export and import of greyhound semen?
2. For each of the last five years, and for each state and territory in Australia, please provide the following information:
 - a. the number of units of greyhound semen exported from Australia and the countries to which these units of semen have been exported
 - b. the number of units of greyhound semen imported to Australia, and the countries from which these units of semen were imported.
3. Please provide a breakdown by year, by state and territory of Australia, by the country to which the semen is exported to, and by the country to which the semen is imported from.
4. Does the Department plan to publish this data? If yes, when? If not, why not?

Answer:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry monitors imports of dog semen to ensure that it meets all applicable biosecurity and animal health requirements. The department does not have a specific process in place to monitor the import of greyhound semen. Dog semen, irrespective of breed, can be imported into Australian territory from approved countries without a permit. As the breed of dog does not impact the biosecurity risk of its reproductive material, information relevant to the breed of dog is not collected as part of any onshore inspection or assessment of the product at the border.

Further, the department does not have a process in place to monitor the export of greyhound semen from Australia. Under the *Export Control Act 2020* (the Act), reproductive material of non-livestock animals – including greyhounds – is certified for export based on species and not breed. Greyhounds are a breed within the *canine familiaris* (dog) species. For the export of reproductive material, the role of the

Department is to issue export permits and health certificates that assures the reproductive material meets the importing country requirements. For greyhound semen, relevant documents are issued in the same manner as for any other breed of dog.

2.
 - a. The department collates data on reproductive material at a species level. The number of units of canine semen (all semen, not just greyhound semen) exported from Australia and the countries to which these units of semen have been exported is provided at **Attachment A** detailing total units of exported canine semen by calendar year, load port and country of destination.
 - b. As above, the department collates data on reproductive material at a species level. The number of units of canine semen (all semen, not just greyhound semen) imported to Australia and the countries from which these units of semen have been imported is provided at **Attachment B** detailing total units of imported canine semen by calendar year, arrival port and country of import.
3. Refer to **Attachment A** and **Attachment B** noting that some of the information sought is not collected by the department.
4. A summary of all reproductive material exports at a species level are currently published on the department's website (<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/controlled-goods/live-animals/live-animal-export-statistics/reproductive-material-exports>). The report is compiled from information collected from the details of the export permit and health certificate issued by the department to exporters at the time of departure. The department currently does not publish information on imported semen as to date there has not been significant interest in this information. The department may consider publishing this information in the future.

Attachment A: Total units of exported canine semen by calendar year, load port and country of destination.

2018: Total Canine semen exports by Load Port				
Destination country	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Canada		14	2	16
Finland		124		124
Germany		64	30	94
Hong Kong		14		14
Ireland		4		4
Italy		6		6
Japan	48	4		52
New Zealand	99	94	183	376
South Africa		2		2
Sweden		4		4
Taiwan		13		13
United Kingdom		45	2	47
United States		143	50	193
Grand Total	147	531	267	945

2019: Total Canine semen exports by Load Port				
Destination country	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Czechia		12		12
Finland		8	3	11
France		93		93
Germany		89	9	98
Ireland		6	2	8
Lithuania		1		1
New Zealand	50	188	67	305
South Korea		4		4
Sweden		18		18
United Kingdom		8	49	57
United States		78	54	132
Grand Total	50	505	184	739

2020: Total Canine semen exports by Load Port				
Destination country	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Canada		5		5
Czechia			4	4
Finland		62		62
France		2		2
Germany		106	26	132
Hungary		8		8
Japan	2	9		11
New Zealand		301	263	564
Norway		24		24
South Africa		224		224
Spain		2		2
United Kingdom		2	12	14
United States		189	20	209
Grand Total	2	934	325	1,261

2021: Total Canine semen exports by Load Port				
Destination country	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Canada		6		6
Finland		98		98
France		208		208
Germany		76	13	89
Hong Kong		12		12
Ireland		8		8
Japan	107	8		115
New Zealand		401	91	492
Norway		28	6	34
Sweden		4		4
United Kingdom		79	13	92
United States	1	130	31	162
Grand Total	108	1,058	154	1,320

2022: Total Canine semen exports by Load Port				
Destination country	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Canada		2	8	10
Czechia		2		2
Denmark		8		8
Finland		22		22
Germany		35	26	61
Ireland		12	11	23
Japan		9	18	27
New Caledonia			6	6
New Zealand	30	295	169	494
South Africa		16	4	20
Taiwan		11		11
United Kingdom		6	20	26
United States		155	35	190
Grand Total	30	573	297	900

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Attachment B: Total straws/vials of imported canine semen by calendar year, port of arrival and country of export.

2018: Total imported canine semen by country of export					
Country of export	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Perth	Grand Total
Belgium		45			45
Chile		8			8
Czech Republic		92	20		112
Denmark		31			31
Finland		133			133
France		12			12
Germany		108	39		147
Guernsey		35			35
Hungary		52			52
Ireland		42	131		173
Italy		102	14		116
Korea	2	4			6
Lithuania		24			24
Netherlands		105		23	128
New Zealand		149	57		206
Norway		97			97
Poland		46	4	1	51
Slovakia	9	20			29
South Africa			19		19
Spain		18			18
Sweden		20	21		41
United Kingdom	6	458	86		550
United States of America (USA)	40	883	457		1380
Grand Total	57	2484	848	24	3413

2019: Total imported canine semen by country of export

Country of export	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Austria		32		32
Belgium		120		120
Chile	32			32
Czechia		18		18
Denmark		56		56
Finland		116		116
France	12	159		171
Germany		120	16	136
Hungary		30		30
Ireland		79	93	172
Italy		74	82	156
Korea	5			5
Lithuania		144		144
Netherlands		391	44	435
New Zealand		87	57	144
Norway		70		70
Poland	16	52	6	74
Portugal		4		4
South Africa	123		307	430
Spain		24		24
Sweden		175		175
United Kingdom		316	162	478
United States of America		852	327	1179
Grand Total	188	2919	1094	4201

2020: Total imported canine semen by country of export

Country of export	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Perth	Grand Total
Austria		69			69
Belgium		43			43
Czechia		96			96
Denmark		12			12
Finland		180			180
France		129			129
Germany		225			225
Hungary		91		41	132
Ireland		75		246	321
Italy		125			125
Japan		34			34
Lithuania		67			67
Netherlands	21	159		19	199
New Zealand		164		16	184
Norway		20		3	23
Poland		135			135
Portugal		3		18	21
South Africa		204			204
Sweden		69			69
United Kingdom		393		94	487
United States of America	6	730		267	1003
Grand Total	27	3023		704	3758

2021: Total imported canine semen by country of export

Country of export	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Austria		14		14
Belgium	20	14		34
Bulgaria		15		15
Canada		56		56
Czechia		36	25	61
Denmark		117	12	129
Finland		236		236
France		175		175
Germany		170	37	207
Hungary		70		70
Ireland		118	154	272
Italy		123	6	129
Japan	3			3
Korea			4	4
Netherlands	7	234	19	260
New Zealand	11	179	133	323
Norway		43		43
Poland		82		82
Portugal		24		24
South Africa		33		33
Spain		42		42
Sweden		126		126
Switzerland		24		24
United Kingdom		405	252	657
United States of America		1122	420	1542
Grand Total	41	3458	1062	4561

2022: Total imported canine semen by country of export

Country of exmport	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Austria		100		100
Belgium		103		103
Canada		42	185	227
Czechia		169		169
Denmark		75	25	100
Finland		145		145
France		17		17
Germany		175		175
Hungary		130	22	152
Ireland		83	95	178
Italy		107		107
Japan		3		3
Lithuania		49		49
Netherlands		476	13	489
New Zealand	19	137	70	226
Norway		25	27	52
Poland		101		101
Slovenia		8		8
South Africa		14	53	67
Sweden		164		164
United Kingdom		568	329	897
United States of America		1070	487	1557
Grand Total	19	3761	1306	5086

2023: Total imported canine semen by country of export

Country of export	Brisbane	Melbourne	Sydney	Grand Total
Austria	24	33		57
Belgium		74		74
Canada		5		5
Czech Republic		26		26
Denmark		86		86
Finland		36		36
France		32		32
Germany		299	25	324
Hungary		107		107
Ireland		105	88	193
Italy		97		97
Japan		2		2
Lithuania		19		19
Netherlands	15	137		152
New Zealand	8	117	43	168
Norway		6	30	36
Poland		52		52
Slovenia		17		17
South Africa		10		10
Spain		15	7	22
Sweden		61		61
Switzerland		20		20
United Kingdom		558	117	675
United States of America		769	276	1045
Grand Total	47	2683	586	3316

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