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Plant quarantine

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PLANT QUARANTINE

AUSTRALIA is most fortunate in still being free from many diseases and pests of important crop plants which do serious damage in other countries unless controlled by expensive control programmes. It is in the best interests of Australia that we should maintain this position as long as possible, but rapid transport of plant material from overseas, which is part of air travel development, makes this increasingly difficult.

For these reasons, conditions governing the importation of all plant material are laid down under regulations, gazetted by proclamations and Statutory Rules, under the Quarantine Act, 1908-1950.

Plant material can only be landed at special ports of entry and cleared from Customs after examination and such treatment as is considered necessary by Plant Quarantine inspectors.

The State Departments of Agriculture operate this inspection service under the control of a Chief Quarantine Officer (Plants) in each State, for and on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Health.

From the State Department of Agriculture details of plant quarantine regulations in respect of any plant which it is desired to import may be obtained, but the following outline will indicate some general principles:—

1. Some plants are totally prohibited, e.g., chestnuts, elms, broom millet, peanut plants, avocado plants, weed seeds, trees of stonefruits, apples, pears and citrus from certain countries.
2. Others are imported only under special safeguards, e.g., sugar cane, banana offsets, budwood of stone fruits from North America, Citrus from any area where Citrus canker is present, apples and pears from areas where fire blight occurs, potato tubers, grapevines, seeds of maize and sweet corn.

3. Others require a special permit, e.g., Nursery stock, peanuts, seeds of soya beans, flax, tobacco sorghum, beans, tomato.
4. Others may be imported only under certain conditions, e.g., bulbs, hops, raw cotton, logs and timber from areas to North of Australia.
5. Other plant materials are allowed entry subject to examination at port of entry (and treatment if necessary), e.g., nuts, dried fruits, seeds of most vegetables, grasses and clovers, timber cases, raffia and cane.

N.B.—It must be emphasised that the above list is incomplete. Consult your local Department of Agriculture for further details.

REMEMBER!

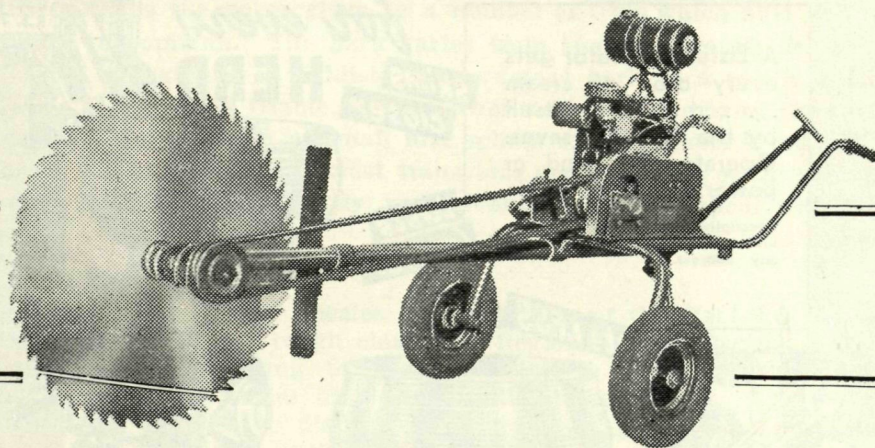
Every plant importation involves a risk of introducing some pest or disease or weed which may harm Australia's primary industries. There are safe ways of importing the best new varieties of plant novelties—through Plant Quarantine.

There are State Quarantine Regulations affecting the movements of fruit, plants and vegetables which may spread pests and diseases. Entry of certain plant material to a State or a specified area within a State is in some instances prohibited under State control. Where it is possible to move plants safely, ensure that they are properly certificated.

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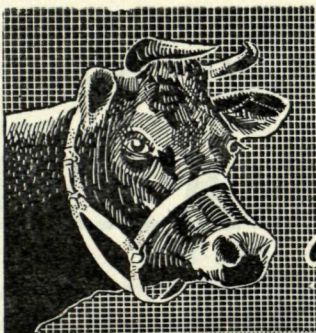
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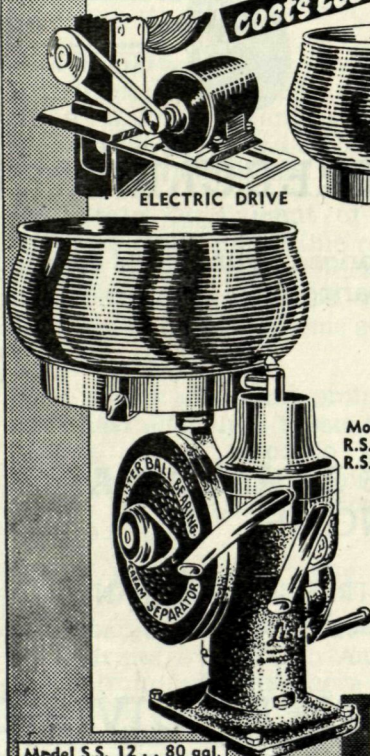
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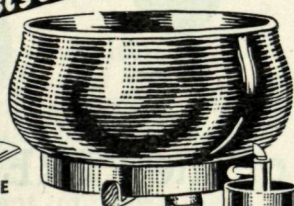
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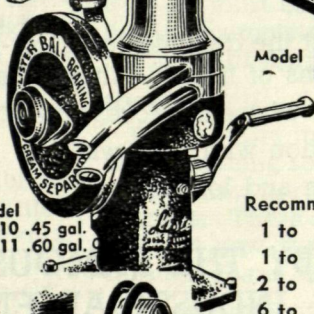
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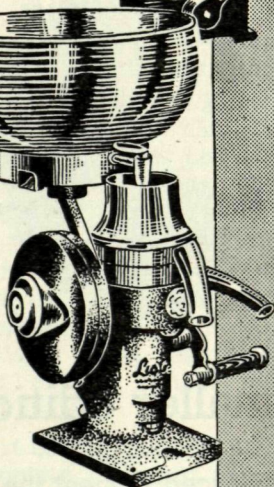
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