

Assessment Report and Application
To Amend the List of Specimens Taken to be Suitable for Live Import

(LIVE IMPORT LIST)

1. Provide information on the taxonomy of the species:

Common Name: Emerald Tree Monitor
Scientific Name: Varanus Prasinus
Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Order: Squamata
Family: Varanidae
Genus: Varanus
Subgenus: Euprepiosaurus
Species: V. Prasinus

The Emerald Tree Monitor, *varanus prasinus*, is a monitor Lizard native to New Guinea (Indonesia and Papua New Guinea) as well as several adjacent islands and Northern Torres Strait Islands. They are listed in the IUCN Red List that their current presence in Queensland Australia is uncertain.

2. Provide information on the status of the species under CITES:

CITES Listing Appendix 2
IUCN Red List Status: Least Concern

The Emerald Tree Monitor (*varanus prasinus*) is Appendices 2 listed CITES. There are no suspensions in place for this species. They are listed on the IUCN Red List as Least Concern. "It is unlikely that any major threats are impacting this species. It is present in the pet trade, but is unlikely that current harvest levels pose a significant threat, and the species is captive-bred."

3. Provide information about the ecology of species.

- **Population Numbers:**

The IUCN notes that there is a stable wild population with a listing of least concern. No specific numbers are offered.

- **Lifespan:**

No wild lifespan data is available, however, zoo records indicate individuals live up to 20 years.

- **Size and Weight Range:**

This species has been recorded growing up to 90cm long, with a snout to vent (base of the tail, cloaca) length of 30cm. Records at Hgle Zoo put the weight at 298 grams.

They are a very slender species.

- **Natural Geographic Range:**

The IUCN state their geographic range as: “Extant (resident) Indonesia (Papua); Papua New Guinea (Papua New Guinea (Mainland Island groups)). Presence uncertain Australia (Queensland)”

Harold G Cogger in 1975 first mentioned unconfirmed records of tree monitors from the Northern Cape York Peninsular. In 1980 Czechura published the first record of *V. Prasinus* for mainland Australia.

In 1986 Harold G Cogger described the distribution area of *V. prasinus* as including the Northern Cape York Peninsula. In 1988 Wilson and Knowles listed *V. Prasinus* from Australia. *Varanus prasinus* is also recorded in the Torres Strait Islands.

- **Habitat:**

Found in Habitats including monsoon, rain and palm forests, as well as lagoons and mangroves. They are a tropical species.

- **Diet:**

Emerald Tree Monitors are predominantly insectivorous preying on tree dwelling arthropods such as katydid, stick insects, cockroaches, beetles, spiders and crabs. They will occasionally eat small birds or mammals.

- **Social Behaviour:**

The Emerald Tree Monitors are social lizards, living in small groups made up of a dominant male and several females.

- **Threats:**

IUCN “It is unlikely that any major threats are impacting this species. It is present in the pet trade, but is unlikely that current harvest levels pose a significant threat, and the species is captive-bred.”

- **Characteristics that may cause harm to humans and other species:**

There are no characteristics that have been recorded to suggest causing harm to humans or other species (with the exception of its prey of predominantly insects).

4. **Reproductive Biology:**

Emerald Tree Monitors generally reach sexual maturity between one to two years old. (However, this is more related to size and growth rate than age.) They have been recorded to lay up to three clutches a season, which is generally from November to April. Clutch sizes generally contain up to five eggs, and once laid have been recorded to incubate from 187 days

to 205 days at around 29°C.

The mating process can occur over several days, with 'lock ups' lasting a few minutes to several hours. After mating it will generally be four to eight weeks before the female lays her eggs. Females will dig several test burrows before settling on a site to lay her eggs.

5. Provide information on whether this species has established feral populations, and if so, where those populations are:

The Emerald Tree Monitor is kept in captivity throughout Europe, America and in Queensland, Australia, and there are no recorded feral populations.

6. Provide information on, and the results of any other environmental risk assessments undertaken on the species, both in Australia and overseas, including any risk analysis undertaken by Bio Security Australia:

The Emerald Tree Monitor is not included in the Vertebrate Pests Committee's 2007 "List of Exotic vertebrate animals in Australia". No environmental risk assessments have been completed for the Emerald Tree Monitor, although a number of other varanid species are approved and eligible for import:

"List of specimens taken to be suitable for live import (29/11/2001)"

Varanus Jobiensis	Peach Throat Monitor, Schmidt's Monitor Sepik Monitor	Eligible Non commercial purpose only, excluding household pets
Varanus Komodoensis	Komodo Dragon	Eligible Non commercial purpose only, excluding house hold pets

7. Assess the likelihood that the species could establish a breeding population in the Australian environment, should it ever be released from effective human control:

Emerald Tree Monitors are native inhabitants to the Mainland Australia, specifically far north Queensland, in the Cape York area. They are only found in this small pocket of Australia due to environmental needs of this species to survive and reproduce. In any other parts of Australia it would be impossible without artificial environmental needs being met.

The Emerald Tree Monitor is also held in a small number of private zoo collections throughout Australia.

Exhibits are secure and routinely checked for signs of damage, and Dragon Training Mobile Zoo's high operational and husbandry guidelines also greatly reduce the chance of animals escaping.

The Emeralds Tree Monitor do not have any specific characteristics that would give it an advantage in the Australian environment, (outside its natural range of far North Queensland).

8. Provide a comprehensive assessment of the potential impact of the species should it establish feral populations in Australia:

– similar niche species (i.e. competition with other species for food, shelter, etc.):

The Emerald Tree Monitor *Varanus Prasinus* is native to Australia in far North Queensland. The environment is not suited for them outside this range, and as they are a native Australian species, there is no risk of a feral population establishing.

- Is the species susceptible to, or could transmit any pests or diseases?

Pests/Parasites:

In 1989 specimens of tree monitor wild caught from South East Asia were infested with amoeba.

Wild caught specimen can also carry ticks and mites

Disease

In 2004 Four green tree monitors were found to have varanid herpesvirus 1

Prior to export/import, individuals will require comprehensive health assessments to ensure they are pest and disease free. A secondary health assessment and quarantine will be carried out on arrival.

- Probable prey/food sources, including agricultural crops:

Varanus Prasinus are carnivorous with the majority of their diet consisting of small invertebrates. A study conducted in 1986 showed katydids were the most abundant prey item along with grass hoppers. Other prey includes centipedes, spiders and a few coleopteran larvae.

Although primarily insectivorous they also eat small arboreal or semi-arboreal mammals.

- Any control/eradication programs that could be applied in Australia if the species was released or escaped.

In the unlikely event of an escape this species *varanus prasinus* is already an Australian native, however, environmental factors restrict it to its range of far North Queensland. Should it somehow survive further south of its range it would be unable to successfully propagate (as the temperature and humidity do not suit this species).

9. What conditions or restrictions, if any, could be applied to the import of the species to reduce any potential for negative environmental impacts?

It is recommended that the species be considered for listing under Part 2 of the Live Import List and applying the condition Eligible non-commercial purpose only, excluding household pets.

10. Provide a summary of the types of activities that the specimen may be used for if imported into Australia:

- *varanus prasinus* be featured in mobile and stationary zoo based educational

displays, focusing on evolutionary adaptations of Australia's diverse array of varanid species.

- A certain number will be bred for other Licensed Educational facilities.

- Potential trade in the species

Trade of any potential offspring of imported animals would only be to appropriately licensed organisations.

11. Provide detailed guidelines on the way in which the species should be kept, transported and disposed of in accordance with the types of activities that the species may be used for if imported into Australia.

Emerald Tree Monitors can be held in both indoor and outdoor enclosures, in most parts of Australia. If kept outdoors they should be kept in a 'green house' type enclosure to achieve adequate heat and humidity levels year round. Artificial spray systems should be used in large enclosures to maintain humidity levels, and artificial heating and UVB lighting should be used where they do not have access to direct sunlight (e.g. being in indoor enclosures or if the materials used in the green house outdoor set up filter out UV light).

The "Standards for exhibiting Reptiles in NSW" under the 'Exhibited Animals Protection Act' are recommended in regards to enclosure size and construction.

As per the Exhibited Animals Protection Act, animals will be routinely vet checked by a nominated specialist Vet, and daily health checks carried out by the Keepers.

- Transport Equipment

Specialized transport crate/box should be used for this species. Transport enclosure should be constructed with rubber padding surrounding walls, roof and floor, fresh wood shavings covering the floor, plenty of ventilation holes and a 'snake bag'. It is also recommended that the construction have a split lid system (on lid of each half of transport enclosure).

As per the 'Standards For Exhibiting Animals at Mobile Establishments in NSW'.

Clause 6 – Requirements for animal containers and vehicles

1. An animal to be used in a mobile exhibition must be transported to and from a mobile establishment in accordance with the requirements set out in this clause.
2. An animal must be transported in a manner that protects the animal from being injured or exposed to unsuitable or stressful climatic or environmental conditions. The animal must not be transported in an uncovered section of a vehicle or trailer. Note. Adequate ventilation can be provided in the form of an air intake device or air conditioning. The space in which the animals are being transported may require modifications to ensure transport conditions are maintained at an appropriate ambient temperature (whether heating or cooling).
3. An animal must be transported within a container that:
 - a) is structurally sound so that it is crush proof and escape proof; and
 - b) is constructed in such a way that it will not injure any enclosed animal; and

- c) can be easily loaded and unloaded; and
- d) provides suitable barriers between the enclosed animals where there is risk of an animal injuring another; and Note. It is recommended that individual animals are transported in separate containers so they can be more easily monitored. This makes it easier to determine which animal is the source of any faeces, urine or blood that may be of concern.
- e) for terrestrial animals, has a non-slip floor and allows freedom of movement for the enclosed animals to stand, sit, lie down, turn around and stretch out their full length, with the following exceptions: equids must not be allowed room to turn around due to injury concerns; snakes and lizards may be transported in containers that do not allow them to stretch out their full length; and
- f) allows frequent visual or environment (for example, monitoring of ambient temperature) inspections to be undertaken; and
- g) includes an appropriate warning sign if it contains venomous or dangerous species; and
- h) is designed to allow ease of cleaning and disinfection.

4. An animal transport vehicle must incorporate:

- a) facilities to securely fasten animal transport containers to prevent them moving within the vehicle; and
- b) a vehicle exhaust system that does not pollute the air inside the animal transport container; and
- c) a barrier between the animal transport container and the driver's compartment strong enough to hold the weight of animals and their containers in the event of an accident.

5. A compartment within which animal containers are transported must:

- a) allow handling of transport containers without risk to the handlers; and
- b) be designed to control spillage of faeces and be disinfected after each use. Note. Animals are susceptible to injury or the exacerbation of sub-clinical infection during loading, handling and transportation. These problems often arise due to cumulative stresses. Common stressors include:
 - unusual yarding and handling;
 - deprivation of food and water;
 - changes in climatic conditions;
 - overcrowding or isolation, unfamiliar surroundings, noises and sensations;
 - inappropriate care during road transportation; and
 - physiological responses associated with pregnancy and lactation. The greater the number of stressful experiences that can be removed, the better the chances of the animal arriving at its destination in the same condition as it departed

Clause 7 – Transportation

1. A mobile exhibitor must ensure that a sufficient number of experienced staff accompany animals transported to and from a mobile establishment, to ensure compliance with these Standards.
2. A mobile exhibitor must ensure the person in charge of a mobile exhibition of the mobile exhibitor's animal(s) has a documented contingency plan detailing how the person in charge is to manage the animals in the event of an accident, breakdown or escape of animals while transporting the animals.
3. Veterinary assistance must be sought as soon as possible for any animal seriously injured during transportation to or from a mobile establishment.
4. Each animal must be checked as soon as possible upon arrival at a mobile establishment by the mobile exhibitor or his or her delegate.
5. Where an animal is to be displayed within an enclosure at a mobile establishment, it must, where possible, be released directly into the display enclosure from the transport vehicle or container. If the animal must be walked from the transport vehicle to the display enclosure the mobile exhibitor must ensure appropriate crowd control is in place and that the animal does not walk on unsuitable substrate; that is, slippery floors.

- Containment

Australian States have respective regulatory agencies that oversee codes of practices with requirements for safe and secure housing for animals on public exhibition.

“NSW – General Standards for Exhibiting Animals Part 5 – ‘Enclosures Must be constructed of such materials and be maintained in sufficiently good repair as to ensure that they will contain the animals at all times and are safe for the animals; an animal cannot escape in circumstances that cannot reasonably be foreseen and guarded against’;”

- The disposal options for surplus specimens

Surplus animals would be avoided by non incubating any eggs. Any reproduced animals would only be appropriately licensed and qualified organisations.

12. Provide information on all other Commonwealth, state and territory legislative controls on the species:

- Queensland emerald tree monitors are on the Native animal keeping licence under a class 2 licence
The regulation is: Nature Conservation (Animals) Regulation 2020, Schedule 3—Part 3 Section 8
- No other states specify the emerald tree monitor at this stage

Reptiles (excluding crocodylians) for zoological purposes

Case Description

Effective: 7 January 2021

This case describes the requirements for the importation of live reptiles (excluding crocodylians) into a facility approved by the appropriate State or Territory Government for holding the imported species for display or conservation.

Import Destination: Australia

Alerts

There are no current alerts applicable to this import case. Users should be aware that alerts can have significant impact on import conditions and, as such, should check this import case on the BICON website regularly.

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Import Scenario Definition

1. Biosecurity Pathway



The specific import conditions that the competent authority in the exporting country must certify to can be found in the veterinary certification requirements (Appendix [1](#)).

Further conditions relevant to the import of this commodity are detailed below.

1.1. Import Requirements

- a. Importation is only permitted into a zoo, aquarium or wildlife park approved under relevant state or territory legislation to hold the species being imported.
- b. Prior to the importation of goods into Australia, a valid import permit issued by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment is required.
An import permit may be obtained by submitting an import permit application to the department (use the 'Apply Now' button at the bottom of this page).
To apply you must logon to BICON and complete an application for Zoo animals
- c. **Conditions of Administration**
 1. It is the person in charge of the goods responsibility to identify and ensure compliance with all requirements of any other regulatory and advisory bodies prior to and after importation.
 2. Consignments must be addressed and sent to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment at the port of arrival.
 3. One person in charge of the goods, as listed on the import permit, must be accessible to officers of the department and accept responsibility for ensuring that all import conditions are met, including the inspection by the department.
 4. The person in charge of the goods must notify the office of the department (Appendix [3](#)) in the state of import in writing at **least three (3) working days** prior to import. The notification must include:
 - 4.1. The import permit number issued by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.
 - 4.2. The entry number.
 - 4.3. A contact number for the person in charge of the goods.
 - 4.4. The flight number.
 - 4.5. The air waybill number.
 - 4.6. The date and estimated time of arrival.
 - 4.7. A list of animals being imported.
 5. The person in charge of the goods must make an appointment for inspection of the animal(s) by the department at the port of arrival. The person in charge of the goods may be required to be present at this inspection and provide all veterinary certification.
 6. Consignments that do not meet the department's import conditions will either remain in biosecurity control, be exported or be disposed of without recompense.



For animal and biological import information, contact the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment Client Contact Group Canberra ([Appendix 2](#)).

d. These conditions apply to members of the class Reptilia other than crocodylians.

e. **Certification requirements**

Certification must be provided to verify freedom from disease(s) and specify the health status of each animal.

To demonstrate compliance with this requirement you must present the following on a Veterinary Certificate:

Evidence that all of the requirements ([Appendix 1](#)) on the veterinary certificate have been met.



In addition to meeting the department's [Minimum documentary and import declaration requirements policy](#) the veterinary certificate must comply with the following:

1. A certificate must be supplied for each animal.
2. The document must be written in English, and a language understood by the official veterinarian of the country of export.
3. The document must meet all requirements of the veterinary certification conditions.
4. The document must provide all relevant statement/s.
5. The document must provide identification of each animal. This includes description, species, sex, age and microchip number with site of implantation.
6. The document must detail the name and address of the person in charge of the goods and the exporter.
7. The document must include the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment import permit number.
8. The document must include the nature and identification of the means of transport.
9. The official veterinarian's name, title and contact details must appear on the veterinary certificate.
10. The document must be signed, dated and stamped (with the stamp of the government veterinary administration) on each page of the veterinary certificate and all documents e.g. laboratory reports which form part of the extended health certification.
11. Copies of documents will be accepted which bear the original signature, date and stamp of the official veterinarian.

Note: An official veterinarian is a veterinarian authorised by the veterinary administration of the exporting country to perform animal health certification in

conformity with the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Related Information:

- Website: OIE homepage

f. **Transport**

1. Exporters or their agents must have detailed plans to cover procedures including contingency plans, for transporting the animal from pre-export establishment until arrival in Australian territory.
2. Animals must be consigned to Australian territory by a route approved by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.
3. Animals must travel in a container recommended for that particular species under the [International Air Transport Association \(IATA\)](#) Live Animal Regulations.
4. All feed used during transport to Australian territory must enter the pre-export establishment before commencement of this period.
5. The use of hay or straw as bedding during transport is not permitted. Treated wood shavings, sterilised peat and soft board can be used.
6. Animals must remain isolated from all animals except those that meet all the conditions described in this import permit, during transport from pre-export establishment until arrival in Australian territory.

g. **Arrival in Australia**

1. Importers or their agents must have a plan developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to cover post-arrival procedures. The plan must include roles and responsibilities for their staff, vehicles for transporting animals to the approved arrangement site (AA site) and road transport arrangements including contingency plans for vehicle and equipment failures.
2. Vehicles for transporting the animals from the first point of entry to the AA site must be cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the departmental officer before loading the animals. The department must be advised of the transport route to the AA site.
3. After the animals arrive at an Australian airport they must be transferred in their transport containers onto vehicles, along with personnel and equipment, and proceed directly to the AA site.
4. All personnel travelling with, or that have had contact with the animals, biosecurity risk material or travel containers, must undertake appropriate decontamination measures as specified by the department before leaving the airport or the AA site if they are accompanying the animal to the AA site.
5. All biosecurity risk material (e.g. bedding, feed, water and waste material) remaining at the airport must be sealed in bags and disposed of as biosecurity waste.
6. All equipment used during transport of the animal, and all baggage and personal equipment accompanying personnel, must be cleaned and disinfected under supervision of the department before leaving the airport.

h. **Post-arrival quarantine**

1. The post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) facility must meet the department requirements for an AA class 7.9 facility.
2. The AA site must be approved by the department before entry of any animal into the AA site.
3. The AA site should be located within a secure part of a zoo or wildlife park approved under relevant Australian State or Territory legislation to hold the species being imported, separated from public access areas and where it is under regular supervision by a registered veterinarian.
4. The animal must be held in PAQ for at least 90 days. During this time the animal was isolated from other animals except those that meet all the conditions described in this import permit.
5. All PAQ operations and procedures must follow those outlined for an AA class 7.9 facility and also include:
 - 5.1. A registered veterinarian must inspect the AA site before entry of any animal to ensure it has been cleaned and disinfectant applied to his/her satisfaction.
 - 5.2. The PAQ period will commence from the time of entry into the facility of the last animal.
 - 5.3. Vehicles for transporting animals must not leave the AA site until thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
 - 5.4. If any animal dies during PAQ, the department must be notified within 24 hours and the animal must undergo a post mortem examination by a registered veterinarian to determine the cause of death.
 - 5.5. The department is to be advised within 24 hours of any disease incident and its outcome.
 - 5.6. Animals must not leave the AA site during PAQ without permission of the department.
 - 5.7. At the satisfactory completion of PAQ, the animal will be released from biosecurity control into premises approved by the appropriate State or Territory governments for the holding of zoo reptiles.
- i. Under the [Biosecurity Charges Imposition \(General\) Regulation 2016](#) and Chapter 9, Part 2 of the [Biosecurity Regulation 2016](#), fees are payable to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment for all services. Detail on how the department applies fees and levies may be found in the [Charging guidelines](#).
- j. In addition to the conditions for the goods being imported, non-commodity concerns must be assessed including container cleanliness, packaging and destination concerns, and may be subject to inspection and treatment on arrival. Please refer to the Non-Commodity Cargo Clearance BICON case for further information.



You may require a wildlife trade permit and/or other approvals from the Wildlife Trade Regulation section. More information is available on the [International wildlife trade webpage](#).

Appendix 1: Certificate: Veterinary certification requirements for live zoo reptiles (excluding crocodylians)

NOTE: Veterinary certificates are negotiated directly between relevant government authorities. In cases where a veterinary certificate has not been negotiated, this annex can be used as the basis for developing a suitable document.

1. The premises of origin is a zoo, aquarium or other institution, approved licensed or registered by the government of the exporting country to hold reptiles.
2. The premises of origin is under veterinary supervision, where the health of the animal(s) is monitored so that incursions of disease are identified, and control and/or eradication measures can be applied. The premises of origin operates a documented animal health monitoring program which includes microbiological and parasitological tests and necropsies.
3. Each animal for export has been continuously resident in the premises of origin since birth or for at least 90 days prior to certification.
4. No case of mycoplasmosis, inclusion body disease of boids, or disease due to herpesvirus, ranavirus or paramyxovirus has been diagnosed in reptiles of the same family as the reptiles being exported, at the premises of origin during the 12 months prior to certification.
5. The animal(s) for export was held in isolation from other animals not of the same health and residency status, for 90 days prior to the date of export, and remained free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease during that period.
6. Each animal was treated on two occasions, at least 14 days apart and during the 30 days prior to export, with internal parasiticides suitable for use on reptiles and effective against helminths, pentastomes and protozoa. The dates of treatment, active ingredients and dose rate used for each species are recorded in an attachment to the veterinary certificate.
7. The official veterinarian or a veterinarian recognised by the official veterinarian as having expertise in the diagnosis of disease in reptiles, has inspected each animal within 72 hours prior to export and found it to be:
 - 7.1. free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease
 - 7.2. visibly free from mites, ticks and other external parasites
 - 7.3. healthy and fit to travel.
8. After due enquiry the official veterinarian is satisfied that each animal will be shipped in a container that meets the appropriate container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) live animals regulations.
9. Each animal has been individually identified with an International Standards Organisation (ISO) compliant microchip, and the site of implantation and the identification number of each animal has been recorded on the veterinary certificate.

Appendix 4: Documentation Requirements

The information below describes the requirements for documentation presented to the Department of Agriculture to support the risk assessment of imported goods.

Veterinary Certificate

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code describing the animal health and/or public health requirements fulfilled by the exported commodity.

- a. **Complete** - All prescribed information required to be on a document must be present and complete. Additional prescribed information below:
 1. A certificate must be supplied for each animal
 2. The document must be written in English, and a language understood by the official veterinarian of the country of export.
 3. The document must meet all requirements of the veterinary certification conditions.
 4. The document must provide all relevant statement/s.
 5. The document must provide identification of each animal. This includes description, species, sex, age and microchip number with site of implantation (if applicable).
 6. The document must detail the name and address of the person in charge of the goods and the exporter.
 7. The document must include the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources import permit number.
 8. The document must include the nature and identification of the means of transport.
 9. The official veterinarian's name, title and contact details must appear on the veterinary certificate.
 10. The document must be signed, dated and stamped (with the stamp of the government veterinary administration) on each page of the veterinary certificate and all documents e.g. laboratory reports which form part of the extended health certification.
 11. Copies of documents will be accepted which bear the original signature, date and stamp of the official veterinarian.

Note:

An official veterinarian is a veterinarian authorised by the veterinary administration of the exporting country to perform animal health certification in conformity with the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

- b. **Legible** - All prescribed information required to be on a document must be legible.
- c. **Valid** - Many documents, such as import permits, are valid for a certain period. Presented documents must comply with the validity requirements specified for that class of document.
- d. **In English** - All information required to be on a document must be in English. Exceptions to this rule include:
 1. company letterheads that do not need to be translated into English but must be in English characters.

2. commercial, transport and government certification that are required to comply with international standard formats.
3. signatures and names of individuals.

Where a document cannot be provided in English, an affidavit will be accepted from either:

1. that country's consulate in Australia.
2. the Australian embassy in the country of origin.
3. a translator accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters Ltd.

- e. **Free from erasures and alterations** - All prescribed information on the document must be free from erasures and alterations unless endorsed by the issuer of the document. The only acceptable endorsement is a company stamp or seal signed by the company employee (including printed name) or a government stamp or seal signed by a government employee (including printed name) applied adjacent to the alteration.
- f. **Multiple page documents** - Multi page document must:
- include individual reference numbers/numerical link on ALL pages of the document. For example, commercial invoices (or similar) must contain the documents individual reference number or numerical link on each page of the document.
 - contain an endorsement on the final page of the document, following the information that is being endorsed.

Note: where a document has noted attachments, the attachments can follow the endorsement.

- g. **Endorsed** - All documents must be endorsed by a representative of the organisation or corporation issuing the document. An endorsement must:
1. be an acceptable signature or stamp as defined in the Definitions section of this policy
 2. appear after the information that the signatory is endorsing.

Where a document has noted attachments, the endorsement can be made before the attachments.

- h. **Date of issue** - All documents must identify the date of issue and is to include the day, month and year. Packing declarations may contain vessel/voyage number which can be used in lieu of the date of issue.
- i. **Consignment specific link** - All documents presented to the department for assessment must have a unique consignment-specific link. Examples of consignment identification include:
- container numbers
 - bill numbers
 - commercial invoice numbers
 - lot codes
 - preferential tariff certificate numbers
 - packing list numbers

- letter of credit numbers.

Where a document does not contain one of the accepted forms of consignment identification, a numerical link to another document that does contain appropriate consignment identification must be present.

Examples of acceptable numerical links include:

- order numbers
- reference numbers
- any other internal reference numbers used by overseas companies
- vessel/voyage references.

Numerical links alone cannot be used as consignment identification links.

Unacceptable numerical links are references that could be present in previous or subsequent consignments and relate to a model, type or standardised item number.

Examples of unacceptable numerical links include:

- number of packages
- weights
- dates
- stockkeeping unit
- item codes.

Annual packing declarations are exempt from having consignment-specific links.



For further information, please refer to the [Minimum documentary and import declaration requirements policy](#).

Related Information:

- Website: OIE homepage

Appendix 5: Document Options

Context & Inclusions

User Context: External

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix - Annexes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Scientific Names |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Documentation Requirements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Element Identifiers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix - Glossary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> What’s Changed |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Questions and Answers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onshore Management |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – Rationale | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Processing Path Only |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix – References (Files and URLs) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures |

Authoring Aids & Outputs

Output Format: WORD

Standards and legislation for keeping reptiles in Australia

<http://www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/exhibited-animals/>

Tasmania

<https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/wildlife-management/living-with-wildlife/reptiles-in-captivity/herpetology-in-tasmania>

<https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/wildlife-management/living-with-wildlife/reptiles-in-captivity>

Western Australia

[https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_4689.pdf/\\$FILE/Wildlife%20Conservation%20\(Reptiles%20and%20Amphibians\)%20Regulations%202002%20-%20%5B00-a0-08%5D.pdf?OpenElement](https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_4689.pdf/$FILE/Wildlife%20Conservation%20(Reptiles%20and%20Amphibians)%20Regulations%202002%20-%20%5B00-a0-08%5D.pdf?OpenElement)

<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/licences-and-authorities?showall=1>

Queensland

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https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/285177/Exhibiting-Wildlife-Queensland.pdf

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/exhibiting-animals/exhibiting-animals-qld/legislation-standards>

Northern Territory

https://cmsexternal.nt.gov.au/oldanimalwelfare/national_standards_and_guidelines

Victoria

<https://www.zoo.org.au/media/2367/animal-welfare-code.pdf>

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/domestic-animals-act/codes-of-practice/code-of-practice-for-the-welfare-of-animals-private-keeping-of-reptiles>

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/pocta-act-1986/victorian-codes-of-practice-for-animal-welfare/code-of-practice-for-the-public-display-of-exhibition-of-animals>

South Australia

<https://www.zoossa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Zoos-SA-Animal-Welfare-Charter.pdf>

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ACT

<https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/plants-and-animals/licensing-of-plants-and-animals>

NSW

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<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Licences-and-permits/keeping-private-reptiles-code-of-practice.pdf>

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PACKER'S GUIDELINES

Rp/3 – Tortoises and land turtles, snakes, lizards

1. General welfare

- 1.1 Reptiles should have priority over merchandise.
- 1.2¹ Only reptiles in good health should be transported.
- 1.3 Reptiles should not be sedated.
- 1.4¹ Reptiles of different species should not be transported in the same compartment or bag.
- 1.5 Unless reptiles of the same species are known to be compatible with one another, they should not be transported in the same compartment or bag.
- 1.6 Reptiles should be left undisturbed during transport.
- 1.7² Reptiles that have become sick or that have been injured during transport should receive veterinary treatment as soon as possible and, if necessary, should be humanely destroyed. A record of any such occurrences should be kept.
- 1.8² Sick or dead reptiles should be removed from containers, when feasible, and a record kept.
- 1.9 No feeding should be necessary during transport.
- 1.10 To avoid cross-infection, and for health and hygiene reasons, human contact with reptiles should be avoided, and they should not be housed near foodstuffs or in places to which unauthorized persons have access.
- 1.11 No animal should be transported with radioactive material or other substances dangerous to health.
- 1.12 Containers should be secured to the aircraft, rail wagon, lorry or ship to avoid any possible movement, and should at all times be maintained in a horizontal position.

2. Advance arrangements for transport

- 2.1 All possible precautions should be taken in advance to ensure that reptiles are not subjected to extremes of temperature or to draughts. This would necessitate planning their movement with due regard to the climatic conditions natural to them, and to the conditions prevailing at their final destination, and also those that will be encountered during transport. Particular attention should be paid to the facilities at any intermediate stops at airports, etc.
- 2.2 Any bags or other packing material should be destroyed after use; when containers are to be re-used they should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before and after use.
- 2.3 The estimated time of arrival should be notified in advance to the consignee, and also the route of the consignment. Adequate arrangements for its prompt collection at the final destination, and for any necessary movement at transit points, should be made in advance.
- 2.4 Should any delay in collection be anticipated, then advance arrangements should be made for the housing of the reptiles.
- 2.5 Cash on delivery facilities should not be used.

3. Container

- 3.1 The container should be constructed of wood, hardboard, expanded polystyrene, or other material of similar strength, and there should be an adequate framework to ensure that it is strong enough to house the reptiles and to withstand the handling involved during transport.



- 3.2 There should be no sharp edges or projections on the inside surfaces of the container.

- 3.3 If any wood preservative or paint is used on the container, care should be taken to ensure that this is not toxic or a skin irritant.
- 3.4 The container may comprise a number of compartments, provided that the overall size of the container is such that it may be handled without difficulty.
- 3.5 The container should be sufficiently shallow to prevent reptiles, such as tortoises, from climbing on top of one another, and should be of a size which prevents undue movement of the reptiles, and hence minimizes the risk of injury due to violent movement of the container.
- 3.6 There should be a lid completely covering the container, fitted with a secure fastening device.
- 3.7 To ensure an adequate flow of air at all times, ventilation holes should be provided in all walls and the lid of the container. These ventilation holes should be covered with fine gauze.
- 3.8 Suitable gripper bars or lifting handles should be provided.
- 3.9 Spacer bars of adequate size should be fitted to all walls, lid and base of the container, to ensure that there is a free flow of air to the reptiles in the event of stacking or close stowing of cargo.

4. Packing

- 4.1 Snakes and lizards should be placed in suitable bags which are then sealed and labelled "POISONOUS" or "NON-POISONOUS REPTILES" as appropriate. However, bags are not suitable for general transportation of chameleons (*Chamaeleonidae*) and lizards of a spiny nature, such as some agamas (*Agamidae*). The first mentioned travel better in containers furnished with a network of rigid perches and

the others in containers furnished with soft, loose material into which they can burrow.

4.2 In the case of small specimens, several may be packed in the same bag.

4.3 If necessary, dampened sphagnum moss or foam chippings may be packed around the reptiles – certain species may require salt water.

4.4 The bags should be firmly attached to the container.

5. Labelling and documentation



Durable, waterproof labels should be provided as follows:

5.1 "LIVE REPTILES – DO NOT TIP", "POISONOUS" or "NON-POISONOUS", as appropriate, on all sides and top.

5.2 "THIS WAY UP", with arrows indicating the top, on all sides.

5.3 Consignor's and consignee's name, address and telephone number. Box numbers should not be used as the sole address.

5.4 Detailed list of contents: number of reptiles; scientific name and common names used in the exporting and importing countries.

5.5 Temperature range required.

5.6 Date on which reptiles were packed for transport.

5.7 Official stamp of carrier showing date of his receipt of consignment.

Durable, waterproof means of containing the following documents and other essential information should be firmly attached to the container:

5.8 Duplicate of consignor's and consignee's name, address and telephone number.

5.9 Duplicate list of contents as in 5.4.

5.10 Copies of relevant export and import licences.

5.11 Copy of valid health certificate issued in accordance with the requirements of the importing country.

5.12 Duplicate information regarding temperature range required.

1 Exceptional circumstances may arise which justify departure from this recommendation.

2 Reptiles are frequently in a state of torpor and, therefore, the advice of someone qualified in handling reptiles should be obtained before any action is taken in cases where there is any doubt as to the condition of the reptiles.

Referenced: <https://cites.org/eng/resources/transport/rp3.shtml>

1. LIVE ANIMALS REGULATIONS (LAR)

<https://www.iata.org/en/publications/store/live-animals-regulations/>

CHIEF BIO SECURITY OFFICE

- Please provide evidence to show if the species is endemic to Australia and if so which sub species.
 - “Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia updated 7th Edition” “Harold G Cogger, page 780”. Varanus Prasinus “Found in Northern Torres Strait Islands, Queensland, Extra Limited in New Guinea”.
- Please provide details of any impacts from an imported subspecies of the monitors on the endemic Australian monitors.
 - They are not suitable to live and thrive in a broader environmental range than where they currently are in Australia
 - Any introduced prasinus would not out compete the natives as they are so similar, as stated above, they are predominantly insectivorous.
 - They are all canopy dwellers and believed to have derived from one common ancestor with main differences being colour variations.
- Impacts on other Australian Lizards and Varanids.
 - As they are a frail small insectivores it is unlikely there will be impacts on other varanids or lizards, especially due to climate and habitat, they are limited to their native range.
- Please provide details of how only captive bred individuals that comply with (ITES import requirements will be sourced).
 - Species will only be sourced from other zoological facilities with the correct (ITES paperwork and documentation).
- Please explain how a non commercial listing would impact your business.
 - It would not affect our business, we are a Licensed Zoo, and these species are being imported for our educational shows.
 - Any individual’s bred by us will be traded to other zoological institutes in Australia (or gifted). Trades may include work experience or other animals to help expand our educational programs.
 - Any hatchlings will not be ‘sold’.
- Please provide details of how the transportation risks will be managed. How will the species be contained when out of the fixed zoo?
 - All Lizards will be micro chipped
 - When at shows a harness equipped with a GPS tracker will be attached to the lizard to ensure a speedy and accurate recovery in the unlikely event of escape.

HUMANE SOCIETY

- The animals are being imported to a mobile zoo.
- They are to be part of a High School Educational Program showing the evolutionary adaptations of varanid species (and reptiles/amphibians in general). There are many species of varanid native to Australia to be part of the educational program from aquatic, terrestrial, arboreal and semi-arboreal. To sum up Emeralds are part of our Educational Display which we believe is key to promoting conservation efforts.
- Will the public be in contact with the monitors?
The Emerald Tree Monitors are for our school Educational Program, so not a part of our general public educational display. The level of contact with Teachers and Students will be individually assessed once the monitors have been socialized and as per Part 3 Clause 4 of the Exhibited Animals “Standards for Exhibiting Animals at Mobile Establishments in New South Wales”: No animals will be displayed until they are habituated or conditioned to a high degree of human contact.
- I would also like to address that no animals at our Zoo are excessively handled with the result of stress or discomfort. Great care and nurturing is taken with all of our animals to ensure that they are socialized to the point where they do not fear people, but do enjoy the new smells and activity as a valuable source of enrichment. Also, our top priority is ensuring the animals are handled comfortably and taken care of at the highest standard.
- Animals will be imported from other zoological facilities only, with full history and captive bred certification provided.
- If breeding is to be done, eggs will be externally incubated at 280⁰ for roughly 179 days, all mating will be recorded and meticulously monitored to determine correct ovulation, copulation, egg laying records will be kept and submitted to the BIWAK Journal (a peer reviewed Journal of the International Varanid Interest Group) used as a resource by Zookeepers and private individuals.

Eggs will only be incubated when a request by another zoological, Licensed Facility requests them for their display. Varanids will live in captivity and not mate, ovulate or lay if conditions for activities are not stimulated. Eggs will not hatch without sufficient incubation time under correct conditions, meaning it is very easy to monitor and prevent breeding, far easier than producing offspring.

- Our organization is a fully licensed/registered zoo in NSW
- We are not a member of ZAA
- Our secure facility has many security measures in place to prevent theft, and as stated above we are a fully licensed and registered zoo, and as such do not engage in the illegal animal trade. As per the standards for exhibiting animals in NSW, any information we may receive regarding any illegal animal trade is promptly reported to the DPI.
- Eggs will only be incubated when a request by another zoological, Licensed Facility requests them for their display. Varanids will live in captivity and not mate, ovulate or lay if conditions for activities are not stimulated. Eggs will not hatch without sufficient incubation time under correct conditions, meaning it is very easy to monitor and prevent breeding, far easier than producing offspring.
- (Attached is an enclosure design and diet plan.)
- As strict vet checks and quarantine protocols will be adhered to the emerald tree monitors will not be carrying any diseases, parasites or viruses. Please note our assessment on parasites and diseases from the original submission.
- “Is the Species susceptible to, or could transmit any pests or diseases?”
 - Pests/Parasites:

In 1989 specimens of tree monitor wild caught from South East Asia were infested with amoeba.

Wild caught specimen can also carry ticks and mites.
 - Disease

In 2004 Four green tree monitors were found to have varanid herpesvirus 1.

Prior to export/import, individuals will require comprehensive health assessments to ensure they are pest and disease free. A secondary health assessment and quarantine will be carried out on arrival.”

INDIGENOUR REPRESENTATIVE

- Great care, strict guidelines and quarantine measures will be taken and adhered to when moving the animals from one land to another.
- These animals will be held at zoological facilities, never for wild release. They are also already a native species of Australia and a natural occurring part of our biological integrity.
- We devote our lives to providing our animals with every comfort, security, and medical care when needed. We go above and beyond the five freedoms of animal welfare:
 - Freedom from Hunger and Thirst
 - Freedom from Discomfort
 - Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease
 - Freedom to Express Normal Behaviour
 - Freedom from Fear and Distress

We work with our animals to create a special bond where they enjoy and often seek out the interaction with us. We do not force this, but cultivate and nurture their natural curiosities in a safe environment.

References:

Standards for exhibiting animals at mobile establishments in new south wales

https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/277952/Exhibited-Animals-Standards-for-Exhibiting-Animals-at-Mobile-Establishments-in-New-South-Wales-February-2019.pdf

department of primary industries mobile animal exhibits

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/animal-welfare/exhibit/mobile-animal-exhibits>

atlas of living Australia

<https://bie.ala.org.au/species/urn:lsid:biodiversity.org.au:afd.taxon:ec11086e-c922-43f6-876e-c10d53281aa8>

IUCN RED LIST emerald monitor

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/42485751/101752115>

SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL ZOO & CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/emerald-tree-monitor>

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15627519/>

BIAWAK journal of varanid biology and husbandry

http://varanidae.org/9_2_low.pdf

ANIMAL DIVERSITY WEB

https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Varanus_prasinus/

QLD recreational wildlife licence

<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/recreational-wildlife-licence/?search=emerald%20monitor#rwl-animal-finder>

BOOKS

KEEPING AND BREEDING EMERALD TREE MONITORS the varanus prasinus group
Bernd eidenmuller

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS of AUSTRALIA updated 7th edition
Harold G Cogger