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# Australia opens doors to US, Canadian beef with biosecurity assurances

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The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has completed a thorough assessment and, in collaboration with authorities in the United States and Canada, finalised health certification and import permit requirements for beef entering Australia.

Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) has acknowledged the conclusion of this review, stating that the introduction of US and Canadian beef imports is expected to have little impact on Australiaâ??s domestic beef industry.

MLA highlighted that Australian cattle producers are unlikely to be significantly affected by the move, citing continued strong demand for Australian beef in the United States. In June 2025, exports to the US rose by 24 per cent year-on-year, despite the implementation of a tariff in April.

The industry body also reassured consumers that Australian beef continues to dominate the domestic market, accounting for more than 99 per cent of the beef sold in local supermarkets, pubs, and restaurants. Around 70 per cent of Australiaâ??s beef production is exported to overseas markets.

DAFFâ??s decision to permit imports from the US and Canada follows a comprehensive risk evaluation confirming that strict biosecurity protocols and import conditions align with Australiaâ??s high standards.

While US beef has been technically permitted in the Australian market since 2019, actual import volumes have remained negligible.

MLA reaffirmed its commitment to science-based policymaking and the strength of Australiaâ??s biosecurity systems, which it says are essential for protecting both producers and consumers.