



# Protect

# Australian fisheries from disease

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prawns as bait**

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## Diseases in prawns

Imported green (uncooked) prawns may carry viruses.

Although not dangerous to humans, these viruses could have devastating consequences for the Australian prawn industry (farmed and wild-caught).

Recreational fishers who use imported green (uncooked) prawns as bait may unknowingly introduce serious diseases to the Australian prawn industry.

You can help keep Australian produce safe.

Introduced fish and shellfish diseases will have long-term effects on our aquaculture industries, marine and fishing industries and aquatic ecosystems. It is critical that everyone understands their role in keeping Australian fisheries safe.

## What you can do

- Only use Australian prawns for bait (check the packaging for information about country of origin).
- Never use imported green (uncooked) prawn as bait or heads and tails as berley.
- Only use bait caught in your local region.
- Don't turf in the surf – always dispose of prawns thoughtfully. Never throw green (uncooked) prawn waste into waterways.

If you suspect you have purchased imported prawns for bait, or need help identifying imported prawns, contact **DPI&F on 13 25 23** (8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday).



**Queensland Government**  
Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries