

## Look at what we have been saddled with!

A concerned agent officer alerted quarantine office when he discovered that a second hand excavator arrived at Matautu Wharf from New Zealand full of dirt and covered with spider webs.

One would have thought that New Zealand shipping companies who are well exposed to quarantine messages, and the heavy fines imposed in New Zealand would have been particularly careful over the cleanliness of what is taken to other countries in terms of trade.

The inspection officer seized the excavator and transferred it to the quarantine facility for steam cleaning before it was released to the importer.



Senior Quarantine Officer inspecting dirty excavator from New Zealand

## POST ENTRY QUARANTINE



Inside the Post Entry Quarantine at Nuu Research Station.

Post Entry Quarantine is a significant requirement to double check the health status by which plants and animal are brought into the country. Rubber seeds from China and live plants from Hawaii are being Quarantined for a minimum of three months at the Post Entry at Nuu before the consignments are released to the owner.

There is usually a demand by the owners to take the seeds and live plants immediately upon arrival. Samoa Quarantine Service (SQS) does not accept this, as one of our major concern is the invasiveness of the seeds and live plants.

***“QUARANTINE MUST NOT BE COMPROMISED”.***

## Sustainability of existing markets



Senior Quarantine Officer Faataualofa Matai carrying out his normal monthly inspection at the Post Entry Quarantine facility

Quarantine has a role to look for new market access. This is not to forgo our existing markets. In a report from staff members, there were no certifications for the exportation of papaya and banana to New Zealand for the last five months.

While we are looking for new markets it is equally important for us to improve and sustain our existing markets. Examples are, taro,

eggplants, breadfruits, green bananas, coconuts and fish.

