

Ornamental Products of Animal Origin Export to New Zealand

These requirements pertain to ornamental products of animal origin being exported to New Zealand. Ornamental products of animal origin include the following:

- a. Shells, marine ornaments, and dry coral;
- b. Manufactured articles derived from horn, bone, beak, tusk, and tooth;
- c. Fly-tying material containing animal skin or fiber;
- d. Fully tanned leather and leather goods;
- e. Blown eggs or egg shell ornaments/painting;
- f. Rawhide articles and handicrafts; and
- g. Mounted and unmounted game trophies.

The following products are EXCLUDED from this categorization:

- a. Commercial hides and skins that are untanned;
- b. Animal fibers such as bristles, wool, fur;
- c. Feathers on handicrafts (e.g., arrows, dream catchers, shields); and
- d. Preserved animal specimens (e.g., in formalin or alcohol).

A mounted game trophy is defined as “An animal of any species that has undergone a complete taxidermy process (professionally cleaned and processed by a taxidermist) thus ensuring its preservation at ambient temperatures.” These can be whole animals, heads of animals, and/or skulls/antlers mounted onto shields. An unmounted game trophy is defined as “The skulls, horns, hooves, antlers, bones, tusks, claws, teeth, hides, or skins of a wild mammal taken as game from a hunting expedition that have not been fixed onto a mount.” The item is to be further processed into a mounted game trophy by a taxidermist for exhibition.

Please note that exporters of ornamental products of animal origin must also comply with the “*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*” or CITES requirements. These requirements are independent of the animal health requirements that must be met for export. U.S. exporters are advised to contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services with regard to CITES requirements.

Exporters should work with their New Zealand importers to identify and complete the appropriate documents to facilitate entry of these commodities. Questions with regard to entry requirements should be directed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) through/by the New Zealand importer.

I. Ornamental products of animal origin (except for unmounted game trophies) – In general, these commodities must be free of adherent fat, muscle, sinew, blood, extraneous organic material, pest infestation, and evidence of decay. The packaging must be free of any contaminants and appropriate for the commodity to effectively contain any potential biosecurity risks. Please see “Ornamental Products of Animal Origin: MAF (New Zealand) Guidance Document” for additional information on specific commodities.

II. Unmounted game trophy skulls, horns, hooves, antlers, bones, tusks, claws, and teeth – These commodities must be accompanied by a Manufacturer’s Declaration. This document must be prepared on letterhead paper by the manufacturer (taxidermist) and signed by the quality control manager or equivalent knowledgeable and responsible individual from the manufacturing (taxidermy) premises. The document must include the full name and address of the manufacturing (taxidermy) facility; the name and address of the importer; a full description of the commodity (i.e., species of origin; specific parts of the animal); the quantity (total number of packages); identification of the type of packaging; and the following attestations.

“The products described above had been:

- 1) Boiled at a minimum of 100⁰ C for at least 30 minutes; AND
- 2) Processed so that all adherent tissues have been completely removed; AND
- 3) Packaged immediately after treatment in a manner so as to ensure that there is no subsequent contamination with untreated goods of similar nature.”

The completed document must be signed and dated by the responsible individual and include the signatory’s title or position.

All consignments of unmounted game trophy skulls, horns, hooves, antlers, bones, tusks, claws, and teeth will be inspected by New Zealand upon arrival to ensure they are free of extraneous organic material, pest infestation, and evidence of decay.

III. Unmounted pickled game trophy hides and skins – An official veterinary certificate, VS 16-4, Export Certificate for Animal Products, is required for unmounted pickled game trophy hides and skins with the attestations listed below. The processing establishment name and address must also be included on the certificate if different from the exporter. Please note that VS must inspect the manufacturing facility to verify the truthfulness of the attestations.

“The game trophies described herein, [*insert species*] pickled hides and/or skins, were:

- 1) Subjected to a pickling process in a solution of salt and mineral acid at a pH equal to or less than 4; and
- 2) Packaged immediately after treatment in a manner so as to ensure that there is no subsequent contamination with untreated goods of a similar nature.”

IV. Unmounted irradiated game trophy hides and skins – An official veterinary certificate, VS 16-4, Export Certificate for Animal Products, is required for unmounted irradiated game trophy hides and skins with the attestations listed below. The processing establishment name and address must also be included on the certificate if different from the exporter. Please note that VS must inspect the manufacturing facility to verify the truthfulness of the attestations.

“The game trophies described herein, [*insert species*] irradiated hides and/or skins, were:

- 1) Irradiated with a minimum dose of 5 Mrad (50kGy) in a closed and sealed package; and
- 2) Packaged immediately after treatment in a manner so as to ensure that there is no subsequent contamination with untreated goods of a similar nature.”

V. Unmounted dried or salted mammalian game trophy hides and skins – Unmounted dried or salted game trophy hides and skins must be derived from **mammalian species** only. An official veterinary certificate, VS 16-4, Export Certificate for Animal Products, is required for unmounted dried or salted mammalian game trophy hides and skins with the attestations listed below. [New Zealand requires certification that the product originates from a country or zone that is officially free of foot-and-mouth disease in accordance with the OIE Code. The general animal health attestation on the VS 16-4 attests to U.S. freedom from foot-and-mouth disease.] The processing establishment name and address must also be included on the certificate if different from the exporter. Please note that VS must inspect the manufacturing facility to verify the truthfulness of the attestation(s) on processing.

“The game trophies described herein, [*insert species*] dried or salted hides and/or skins, were:

- 1) Dried or wet salted for at least 14 days; and
- 2) Sourced from an area currently free from any outbreaks/epidemics of anthrax;* or
- 3) Subjected to one of the following treatments to deactivate anthrax in accordance with the OIE Code: a) fumigated with ethylene oxide 500 mg/L, at relative humidity 20-40%, at 55 degrees C for 30 minutes; OR b) fumigated with formaldehyde 400 mg/m³ at relative humidity 30 percent, at >15 degrees C for 4 hours; OR c) gamma irradiated with a dose of 40 kGY.**

*VS must verify that the area (State or County, if documented) from which the game animal was harvested did not have any reported outbreaks/epidemics of anthrax in wild or domestic animals for a period of at least 20 days before the animal was harvested. If there were reported outbreaks of anthrax in the area at the time of harvest, treatment is required.

**Either statement 2) or 3) must be provided. If statement 3) is provided, the applicable treatment (a, b, or c) should be included.

Please see attachments for sample VS 16-4s for pickled, irradiated, or dried/salted game trophies. The fillable VS 16-4 is available on the home page for the International Animal Product Regulations (IREGs), together with general instructions.

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/>

The properly completed VS 16-4 should be submitted to the VS Area Office servicing the State where the manufacturing facility (taxidermist) is located.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0256. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved
0579-0256

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

**EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR
ANIMAL PRODUCTS**

Port:

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date:

Certificate Number:

This certificate is for veterinary purposes only. It is valid for 30 days after the date of signature (*in the case of transport by ship or rail, the time is prolonged by the time of the voyage*).

This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, classical swine fever, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS

SIGNATURE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL:

TYPED NAME:

TITLE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL:

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE:

PRODUCT (*type of product, quantity, unit of measure, and animal product species of origin*):

IDENTIFICATION:

CONVEYANCE:

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