IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE 
IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF 
SPECIFIED INEDIBLE ANIMAL PRODUCTS AND 
BIOLOGICALS

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Dated: 20 August 2003

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections that outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, transport and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border and, if necessary, in a transitional facility in New Zealand prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand. When no health certification is required to accompany consignments Part D. will note “none required”.

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of specified inedible animal products and biologicals.

1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of specified inedible animal products and biologicals imported into New Zealand is dependant upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating
country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of specified inedible animal products and biologicals shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.

2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.

2.3 The product must be accompanied by a permit to export where required by the legislation of the country of origin and the convention relating to "Trading in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora". The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of origin of animal products in relation to international agreements on their trade, prior to export. Material arriving in New Zealand without a permit to export may be subject to customs delays pending clearance from the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Biosecurity clearance

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Concentrated ox gall/ox bile and derivatives

Derivatives include mixed bile acids, cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, sodium deoxycholate, dehydrocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, bile salts, special bile, bile powder, bile extract and natural taurine.

Director Animal Biosecurity

The Director Animal Biosecurity, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

Equivalence

Acceptance by the Director Animal Biosecurity that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

Inspector

As defined by the Biosecurity act 1993.
Sealed Packaging

The packaging is impervious and sealed at the point of manufacture. The original packaging must be intact i.e. has not been opened. Examples are screw-top glass or plastic containers with tamper-proof seals or sealed metal drums.

4 EQUIVALENCE

It is expected that the animal product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to MAF for consideration. Detailed information supporting the application for equivalence must be forwarded to MAF for a decision.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

Importation of specified inedible animal products and biologicals into New Zealand which meet the requirements of this import health standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

6 ELIGIBILITY

6.1 Chinese/Oriental medicines containing animal products may be imported from any country provided that the following requirements are met:

i. The product shall be commercially manufactured and compounded into pills, tablets, capsules, liquids, syrups, oils or medicated plasters.
ii. The product shall be shelf-stable (i.e. not require refrigeration).
iii. The packaging or appearance of the packaging shall not indicate that the product is intended for animal use.
iv. If the product is a liquid, it shall be contained within sealed packaging.

(NB: medicines containing bee products are not eligible for importation under clause 6.1.)

6.2 Homeopathic medicines containing animal products may be imported from any country provided that the following requirements are met:

i. The product shall be commercially packed in sealed packaging.
ii. The product shall be labelled as being a homeopathic medicine.
iii. The product packaging shall indicate that the medicine is intended for human use.

(NB: medicines containing bee products are not eligible for importation under clause 6.2.)

6.3 Concentrated ox gall/ox bile and derivatives may be imported from any country provided that the following requirements are met:
i. The product shall be commercially packaged in sealed packaging.

ii. The packaging shall be clean and free from visible signs of contamination.

iii. The product shall be shelf-stable (i.e. does not require refrigeration.)

6.4 **Commercially manufactured food cultures, enzymes or starters (e.g. yoghurt, cheese and sausage starters, enzymes or cultures)** imported from *any country* may be released unconditionally.

6.5 **Commercially manufactured antibiotics, medicines and vaccines intended for human use** from *any country* may be released unconditionally.

6.6 **Products composed only of human tissue** from *any country* may be released unconditionally.

6.7 **Brewers yeast, bakers yeast or any other yeast culture** from *any country* may be released unconditionally.

6.8 **Chondroitin sulphate and heparin** may be imported from *any country* provided that the product is commercially packed in sealed packaging.

6.9 **Nisaplin manufactured by Aplin and Barrett, Beaminster, United Kingdom** may be released unconditionally.

6.10 **Fertosan Compost Starter** may be imported unconditionally.

6.11 **Marazyme Rennet substitute (Mucor Mieher)** from the *United States of America* may be released unconditionally.

6.12 **The enzymes Papain (plant origin), Bromelain (plant origin) and Pectinase (fungal origin)** from *any country* may be released unconditionally.

6.13 **The enzymes Pancreatin (porcine origin) and Pepsin (porcine origin)** may be imported from *Australia, Canada, and the United states of America* provided that the product is commercially packed in sealed packaging.

6.14 The following **surgical implants** may be released unconditionally:

   i. Lonescu Shirley low profile cardiac valve prostheses manufactured by American Edwards Labs, Santa Ana, California, United States of America;

   ii. Mitroflow TM pericardial heart valves manufactured by MNZ Ltd, Richmond, BC, Canada;

   iii. Unilab Surgibone manufactured by Unilab Inc, Hillside, New Jersey, United States of America.

   iv. SJM Epic cardiac valve prostheses manufactured by St. Jude Medical Inc, United States of America.

   v. Pericardial Tissue Bioprosthetic Devices (of bovine and porcine origin) of USA or Australian origin only, manufactured by Edwards Lifesciences AG, Switzerland.
vi. CYPHER Sirolimus-eluting stent from Australia supplied by Johnson and Johnson Medical.

6.15 Isinglass air bladder of fish (clarifying agent for alcoholic beverages) may be imported from any country provided that the product is commercially packed.

6.16 Lanolin and lanolin based products may be imported from any country provided that the products are commercially manufactured and packaged.

6.17 Animal bristles and hair on commercially manufactured paint brushes, shaving brushes, hair brushes, musical instruments (e.g. bows, bow strips), etc… imported from any country may be released unconditionally.

6.18 Silk top and other processed silk fibres (excluding cocoons) imported from any country may be released unconditionally.

6.19 Commercially tanned leather and leather goods from any country may be released unconditionally.

6.20 Commercial consignments of dehaired or unwooled wet blue and wet white hides and skins may be imported from any country provided that the consignment is accompanied by a certificate issued by a government agency or the manufacturer confirming that the consignment has been pickled in a mineral acid (e.g. hydrochloric acid or sulphuric acid).

6.21 Commercially manufactured items (e.g. apparel, carpets, fabric, dyed and spun yarn) containing animal fibres such as wool, mohair, angora, cashmere, alpaca etc. imported from any country can be released unconditionally.

Numdah rugs must be inspected to ensure they are free of contaminants such as seeds.

6.22 Private consignments (i.e. approximately 20 kg or less) of home-spun camelid/goat/sheep fibre (e.g. wool, mohair, cashmere, angora, alpaca etc.) which has been washed and spun into yarn, from any country may be released provided it is free from any visible contamination.

6.23 Inedible gelatine/gelatin products may be imported from any country provided that the products are commercially manufactured and packaged in sealed packaging.

6.24 Animal skin/hide glue or size may be imported from any country provided that the products are commercially manufactured and packaged.

6.25 Highly processed inedible collagen/protein products may be imported from any country provided that the products are commercially manufactured and packaged. Examples of such products are keratin setting retarder (product used for making plaster), hydrolysed collagen, other products containing animal proteins for use in the building trade (e.g. Durafoam protein).

6.26 Private consignments (i.e. approximately 20 kg or less) of emu oil and emu oil products may be imported from Australia provided the products are commercially manufactured and packaged.
6.27 *Commercially prepared vellum or parchment* may be imported from any country provided that the products are commercially prepared.

6.28 *Champion Horse Tails (washed horse hair plaited onto webbing tape intended for cosmetic use in show horses)* may be imported from Australia provided they are free from any visible contamination.

6.29 *Commercial consignments of animal bristles or hair* may be imported from any country provided that the consignment is accompanied by a certificate issued by a government agency or the manufacturer confirming that the consignment has been immersed in water, heated and maintained at a temperature of at least 95°C for a minimum of 25 minutes, or at a temperature of at least 100°C for a minimum of 15 minutes.

**PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

7 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

7.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the Inspector at the port of arrival may inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.

7.2 In the case of animal products, if there is any visible contamination (blood, faeces, soil etc.) of packaging of the consignment this shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to biosecurity clearance being given.

7.3 Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

**PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

None required.

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