

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF NONVIABLE ANIMAL SPECIMENS FROM ALL COUNTRIES

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 25 September 2002

USER GUIDE

The information in a MAF animal product import health standard 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 where indicated.

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 nonviable animal specimens from all countries.

1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of nonviable animal specimens imported into New Zealand from all countries is dependent 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 nonviable animal specimens 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 specimens 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.

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 MAF 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.

MAF: the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Nonviable animal specimens: means any animal (includes vertebrates and invertebrates) or animal tissues that are incapable of growth through resuscitation procedures (i.e. dead).

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

Consignments of nonviable animal specimens into New Zealand from all countries 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

The following items are eligible for importation under this standard:

6.1 whole animal specimens that have been preserved with liquid formalin or alcohol, imported as private consignments, and intended for research or display purposes in institutions such as museums, universities, schools, laboratories, etc.

6.2 whole animal specimens accompanied by a certificate of irradiation issued by an official government department or a recognised institution stating that the whole animal specimens have been subjected to a minimum dose of 5 mrad (50 kgray) and that the whole animal specimens have been sealed in a hermetically sealed container and identified in a manner which can be referenced to the certificate of irradiation.

6.3 specimens of animal tissues and animal faeces preserved in liquid formalin or alcohol, imported as private consignments, and intended for research or display purposes in institutions such as museums, universities, laboratories, etc.

6.4 microscope slides of animal tissue (including bacteria and protozoa) fixed onto glass microscope slides under glass coverslips.

6.5 dried invertebrates. They must be free of visible viable pests, or treated at the importer's expense by fumigation with methyl bromide at the port of entry.

6.6 invertebrates preserved in liquid formalin, alcohol or embedded in amber, resin or similar solid coating.

6.7 commercially prepared insects in glass display cases.

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 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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