

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF SHELF-STABLE PETFOODS CONTAINING BOVINE MATERIAL FROM SPECIFIED COUNTRIES**

**Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993**

**Dated: 12 January 2004**

## **USER GUIDE**

The information in MAF animal and 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 which 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 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 shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine material from specified countries.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine material imported into New Zealand from specified 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 shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine ingredients 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 Please note that this import health standard refers to shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine ingredients only. There is a separate import health standard for shelf-stable petfoods containing ingredients derived from other animal species.

## **3 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### **Bovine material**

This refers to all parts of bovine animals and products derived from them (e.g. meat and bone meal) with the exception of dairy ingredients.

### **Biosecurity Clearance**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **Cooked**

Refers to products which have been raised to a core temperature recognised as sufficient to render the product commercially sterile.

### **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.

### **MAF**

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

## **Petfoods**

Refers to foods intended for direct consumption by pet animal species. Pet animal species are considered to be dogs, cats, aviary birds, zoo birds and zoo animals, rabbits, ferrets, rats, mice etc. Products intended to be fed to production animal species including poultry, ostriches, emus, cattle, sheep, deer, goats, pigs, horses etc. may not be imported under this import health standard.

## **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) and tamper-proof. Any material is suitable for packaging unless specified otherwise. Examples include screw-top glass or plastic containers with tamper-proof seals, sealed foil retort pouches, vacuum packed and heat-sealed plastic wrap or containers, cans, sewn multi-wall bags, sealed cardboard boxes.

## **Shelf-stable**

Means that the products are not required to be kept under refrigeration. This only refers to products while they are sealed, and does not apply to products with instructions stating that the product must be refrigerated after opening.

## **Specified countries**

Includes Canada, the Czech Republic, Israel, Japan, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and the United States of America.

## **Specified risk materials (SRMs)**

From animals of all ages: the entire head (excluding the tongue) including the brain, eyes, trigeminal ganglia and tonsils; the thymus; and the intestines from the duodenum to the rectum.

From animals older than 6 months: the spleen and spinal cord.

From animals older than 30 months: the vertebral column (including dorsal root ganglia).

## **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**

Importations of shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine material into New Zealand from specified 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 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER**

The importer shall supply the following information:

- i. name and address of exporter,
- ii. name and address of manufacturer,
- iii. description and type of product.

### **7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

- 7.1 A copy of the import health standard and all the required information and certification, which must be in English or a bilingual (language of country of origin/English) form, must be presented by the importer when requesting clearance for the consignment to enter New Zealand.

### **8 ELIGIBILITY**

- 8.1 *Cooked petfoods containing bovine material* may be imported provided that the following requirements are met:

- i. The product shall be commercially packaged and labelled as petfood.
- ii. The product shall be cooked.
- iii. The product shall be sealed within cans, glass, foil, plastic or retort pouches.
- iv. The product shall be within its original packaging on arrival.
- v. The product shall be shelf-stable.
- iv. The product shall be accompanied by certification in accordance with Appendix A.

- 8.2 *Cooked petfood ingredients containing bovine materials* (to be used in the manufacture of petfood) may be imported provided that the following requirements are met:

- i. The product shall be commercially packaged and labelled as an ingredient for the manufacture of petfood.
- ii. The product shall be cooked.
- iii. The product shall be sealed and within its original packaging on arrival.
- iv. The product shall be shelf-stable.
- v. The product shall be accompanied by certification in accordance with Appendix A.

8.3 *Dry dog and cat petfoods containing bovine material.* This includes products such as dog and cat biscuits, pellets, chew sticks etc. These products may be imported provided that the following requirements are met:

- i. The product shall be commercially packaged and labelled as petfood.
- ii. The product shall be cooked.
- iii. The product shall be sealed within its original packaging on arrival.
- iv. The product shall be shelf-stable.
- v. The product shall be accompanied by certification in accordance with Appendix A.

8.4 *Dried dog and cat chews containing bovine material.* This includes products such as ligamentum nuchae chews, beef jerky chews etc. These products may be imported provided that the following requirements are met:

- i. The country of origin shall be identifiable from the packaging.
- ii. The product shall be commercially packaged and labelled as petfood.
- iii. The product shall be sealed within its original packaging on arrival.
- iv. The product shall be shelf-stable.
- v. The product shall be accompanied by certification in accordance with Appendix A.

(NB: There is a separate import health standard for dried dog and cat chews manufactured from bovine rawhide.)

8.5 *Dried pelleted petfoods for pets other than cats and dogs containing bovine material* (i.e. pelleted foods for rabbits, mice, aviary birds etc.) may be imported provided that the following requirements are met:

- i. The product shall be in the form of extruded, dry pellets.
- ii. The product shall be commercially packaged and labelled as petfood.
- iii. The product shall be sealed within its original packaging on arrival.
- iv. The product shall be shelf-stable.
- v. The product shall be accompanied by certification in accordance with Appendix A.

(NB: Dried pelleted petfoods containing ingredients of plant origin must comply with existing import health standards for plant products. The importation of plant products is outside the scope of this import health standard.)

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

### **9 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

9.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand, the consignment or a sample of the consignment may be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival.

9.2 Providing that the documentation is in order and 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.

**APPENDIX A**

**10 ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR SHELF-STABLE PETFOOD CONTAINING BOVINE MATERIAL**

**Name of Animal Product:** .....

**Exporting Country:** .....

**Competent Ministry of Exporting Country:** .....

**I. Identification of Product:**

Number of packages: .....

Nature of packaging: .....

Nature of the goods: .....

Species product derived from: .....

Net weight in kilograms (kg): .....

Number of the container(s) and container seal number(s): .....

Production date(s): .....

**II. Origin of Product:**

Name and official approval number(s) of establishment(s): .....

**III. Consignment Information:**

Place of loading: .....

Name and address of consignor: .....

Name and address of consignee: .....

**Port of Disembarkation:** .....

**Country of Final Destination:**      NEW ZEALAND

**IV. Health Attestation:**

I hereby certify with respect to the shelf-stable petfoods\*/petfood ingredients\* (\*delete if not applicable) herein described:

The products do not contain any specified risk materials (SRMs).

(*Note:* See Section 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS for definition of SRMs.)

Done at: ..... on: .....

Signature and Seal of Official Veterinarian: .....

**Note:** the signature and official seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing