



Ref: CTO 2015 074 [G]

Edible Insects: Insect-based Food

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of insect-based food

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following direction for insect-based food to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the *Import Health Standard for Specified Foods for Human Consumption Containing Animal Products (EDIPROIC.ALL; 30 June 2015)*:

The nature of the non-compliance is that insect-based products for human consumption, unless retorted, cannot be imported under the above import health standard.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO Direction have been assessed and are managed effectively. The Animal Imports Team has received technical advice from MPI's Biosecurity Science and Risk Assessment Directorate that biosecurity hazards associated with insect-based products intended for consumption by humans is considered to be very low if the insects are farm raised. Further, the technical advice stated that typical manufacturing processes will mitigate most biosecurity hazards associated with insects.

Import permits for insect-based products will have the special condition that the insects are raised in farms specifically for human consumption and processed in facilities operating an effective Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) programme.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.