



Import Health Standard

Returned New Zealand Animal Products

RETURNAP.ALL

[Document Date]

Draft for
Consultation

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Returned New Zealand Animal Products

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on

REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following standards:

- *New Zealand Origin Dairy Products Returning from Other Countries, DAINZOIC.ALL 29 July 1999*
- *New Zealand Origin Meat Products, Meat By-Products and Deer Velvet Returning from Other Countries, MEANZOIC.ALL 19 July 2001*
- *New Zealand Origin Eggs and Egg Products from All Countries, POUNZOIC.ALL 18 June 2001*
- *New Zealand returning honey clause 7.8 in the Import Health Standard for Specified Processed Bee Products BEEPROIC.ALL 13 November 2006*
- *New Zealand returning fibre clause 2.15 in the Import Health Standard for Animal Fibre, ANIFIBRE.ALL 25 September 2014*
- *New Zealand returning hides and skins clause 2.6 in the Import Health Standard for Hides and Skins HIDESKIN.ALL 7 August 2015.*

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Import Health Standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington this ... day of

Howard Pharo
Manager, Import and Export Animals
Ministry for Primary Industries
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Import Health Standard (IHS), but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

This IHS specifies the minimum requirements that must be met when importing returned New Zealand animal products into New Zealand.

Background

The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.

Import health standards issued under the Act set out requirements to be met to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with importing goods. They include requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit, and during importation, before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Guidance accompanies this IHS as guidance boxes throughout the IHS itself. Guidance provides information on how the requirements may be met.

Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS applies to New Zealand importers of returned New Zealand animal products.

Importers of New Zealand animal products that meet the requirements of another IHS do not need to use this IHS.

Why is this important?

It is the importer's responsibility to ensure the requirements of this IHS are met. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and/or further information may be sought from importers. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may be re-shipped or destroyed under the Act or treated in accordance with this IHS prior to release or equivalence determined. Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of commodity will be recovered in accordance with the Act and any regulations made under the Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of the IHS must be re-shipped.

Equivalence

The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may approve measures under section 27(1)(d) of the Act, different from those set out in this IHS, that may be applied to effectively manage risks associated with the importation of these goods. If an equivalent measure is approved an import permit may be issued under section 24D(2) of the Act, if the Director-General considers it appropriate to do so.

- a) MPI may accept an alternative method, system or process that can be shown to achieve the biosecurity requirements of the IHS (i.e. equivalence).
- b) MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

- c) A permit may be required where specific equivalence measures are approved by MPI. An import permit serves as evidence of equivalence decisions and will be written as specific notes in the special conditions section of the permit.
- d) Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at:
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/5101>
- e) Completed applications are lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

Document History

Refer to Schedule 1.

Other information

This is not an exhaustive list of compliance requirements and it is the importer's responsibility to be familiar with and comply with all New Zealand laws.

Animal Products Act 1999 and Food Act 2014

Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with relevant requirements of the Animal Products Act 1999, Food Act 2014, and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

The Animal Products Act (APA) 1999, Part 5, Section 51 requires the exporter of the animal product to notify MPI within 24 hours of being aware that the animal product:

- a) Is not fit, or is no longer fit, for the intended purpose. This may be as a result of any event which occurred or could have occurred prior to entry into the destination country, regardless of when the event was detected.
- b) Is refused entry by the government of the destination country.
- c) Does not meet, or no longer meets, relevant requirements notified or made available under section 60A of the APA.
- d) Does not have, or no longer has, the required official assurances.

Forms for reporting Export non-conformances can be found at:

<http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/exporting/export-non-conformances.htm>

Importers of food intended for sale for human consumption must be registered with MPI. These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements. Importers are advised to consult MPI's website:

<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/>

Some high risk foods, known as Regulatory Interest Foods will require a food safety clearance on arrival. These foods include some meat, fish, seafood and cheese. A full list can be found in the Schedules to the [Importing Food Notice](#). A food safety clearance will include a documentation check and may include inspection, sampling and testing at the importers cost.

The importation of the following animal material or product must comply with the inspection requirements issued in Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR) 01/172, or any standard that replaces it, under the Animal Products Act 1999:

- a) Imported animal material or product, or product containing animal material or product, that is of New Zealand origin and have been returned to New Zealand for re-export, and
- b) Imported animal material or product of foreign origin intended for export or further processing for export.

The inspection requirements can be found at: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food>. To arrange for inspection of any animal material or animal product, contact your primary verifier or local MPI Verification Services Office.

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Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This IHS applies to all importers of returned New Zealand animal products.
- (2) This IHS does not apply to importers of New Zealand animal products that meet the requirements of another IHS.

1.2 Outcome

- (1) The outcome this IHS is seeking to achieve is the effective management of biosecurity risks associated with eligible consignments of returned New Zealand animal products.

1.3 Definitions

- (1) For the purposes of this standard, terms used that are defined in the Act have the meanings set out there. The Act is available at the following website: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>.
- (2) See Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

1.4 Import permit

- (1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required if a CTO has approved an equivalent measure prior to import, different from that set in the IHS that may be applied to effectively manage risks.

Guidance for Import Permit

- Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/5101>
- Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports animalimports@mpi.govt.nz

1.5 Requirements for returned New Zealand animal products

- (1) Returned New Zealand animal products must either meet a) or b):
 - a) Have been under official control while overseas and not been tampered with, reprocessed, manufactured, or repackaged.
 - b) Have been treated in accordance with Schedule 3.

1.6 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the following documentation:
 - a) A copy of an official assurance (veterinary certificate) for the original export of animal products from New Zealand, where one has been issued by MPI.
 - b) Copies of air bills (for air freight) or bills of lading (for shipping freight) for the original export from, and its return to, New Zealand.

- (2) If the container seal has been broken or the original export was not secured with a container seal (e.g. air freight), one of the following documents issued by the overseas Competent Authority must be provided to MPI:
- a) A certificate of non-manipulation demonstrating that:
 - i) The animal products have been held under official control at all times.
 - ii) No action has been taken to open the packaging of the animal product.
 - iii) A new security device has been placed by the overseas Competent Authority.
 - b) An official document demonstrating that,
 - i) The animal products have been held under official control at all times.
 - ii) Any discrepancies associated with the animal products since they were originally exported from New Zealand were due to inspection activities conducted by the overseas Competent Authority.
 - iii) A new security device has been placed by the overseas Competent Authority.
 - c) An official notice (e.g. refused entry notice, rejection letter) demonstrating that,
 - i) The animal products have been seized by the overseas Competent Authority and held secure at a facility until their return to New Zealand.
 - ii) Conditions applicable to the animal products set out in the official notice have been met.
- (3) An import permit, if required by 1.4.
- (4) All documentation provided must be clearly linked to the consignment, and must include the following details:
- a) A description of the animal product.
 - b) The number of packages or items.
 - c) The total weight of the consignment.
 - d) Lot numbers, container seal numbers (if applicable) or other unique identifiers.

Guidance for 1.6

- Certain countries does not require MPI official assurances (veterinary certificates) for certain animal products. In this case, the importer does not need to meet 1.6 (1) a).

1.7 Biosecurity clearance

- (1) A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the returned New Zealand animal products meets all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 in the Act are met.

Guidance for Inspection and Verification

- Shipping containers with their original container seals do not usually require further inspection unless there is reason to suspect the animal products have been tampered with.
- If original container seals have been broken, as described in 1.6 (2), shipping containers with security devices applied and/or documentation issued by the overseas Competent Authority do not usually require further inspection unless there is reason to suspect the animal products have been tampered with.
- Returned New Zealand animal products that are intended to be re-exported require an additional inspection in accordance with OMAR 01/172 (or any standard that replaces it) under the Animal Products Act 1999. Depending on whether further biosecurity inspection is required and on the inspection location, an MPI inspector warranted under both the Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Animal Products Act 1999 may be available to carry out both inspections.

Schedule 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
TBA	Import Health Standard: Returned New Zealand Animal Products	RETURNAP.ALL
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode

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Schedule 2 – Definitions

Biosecurity Clearance

A clearance under section 26 of the Act for the entry of goods into New Zealand.

Explanatory note: Goods given a biosecurity clearance by an Inspector are released to the importer without restriction.

Competent Authority

The Veterinary or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, that has the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Code* in the whole territory.

CTO Direction

Chief Technical Officer (CTO) Direction - equivalent measures recorded by number under section 27(1)d(iii) of the Act, to enable border staff to clear the goods and record the number in the MPI database.

Director-General

The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

MPI

Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand.

OIE

The World Organisation for Animal Health.

Returned New Zealand animal products

Animal products that were originally exported from New Zealand but were subsequently returned to New Zealand after failing to complete border clearance procedures within expected timeframes at the destination country, for regulatory or non-regulatory reasons.

The Code

The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* as found on the OIE website.

Veterinary Certificate

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the *Code* Chapter for certification procedures, describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

Schedule 3 – Treatment

Returned New Zealand animal products not meeting 1.5 (1) a) of this import health standard must be treated at a transitional facility approved to one of the following standards:

- MPI Standard for Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods, [MPI-STD-TFGEN](#)
- MPI Standard for Transitional Facilities for Animal Products, [MPI-STD-ANIPRODS](#)

The transitional facility applying one of the following treatments must also be approved specifically for carrying out that treatment. The following list of commodity-specific treatments are from their respective import risk analyses or import health standards. This list is not intended to be exhaustive. Importers may refer to MPI's website for a full list of import risk analyses (<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/import-health-standards/risk-analysis/>) or import health standards (<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/import-health-standards/>).

Note: Treatments that provide equivalent biosecurity risk mitigation, but other than those listed below or described in import risk analyses or import health standards, may be considered. Please refer to Introduction, Equivalence of this import health standard.

Meat, tallow, offal, bone, blood and products thereof

- (1) Heat treatment to a core temperature of 121°C for 3 minutes, or any alternative time/temperature parameters that are recognised to be equivalent to F₀3.

(From MPI *Import Risk Analysis for Meat and Meat Products from Ruminants and Pigs*)

Fish and fish products

- (2) Heat treatment to a core temperature of 85°C for at least 15 minutes.

(From MPI *Import Health Standard for the Importation into New Zealand of Cooked Fish from All Countries, FISCOOIC.ALL*)

Bee products

- (3) Gamma irradiation with 15 kGy for products not intended for human consumption.
- (4) A heat treatment in which the bee products have reached a core temperature of:
 - a) 50°C for a minimum of 54 hours
 - b) 60°C for a minimum of 10 hours
 - c) 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes
 - d) 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes
 - e) 90°C for a minimum of 5 minutes

(From MPI *Import Risk Analysis for Honey Bee Products*)

Hides and skins

- (5) Refer to MPI *Import Health Standard for Hides and Skins, HIDESKIN.ALL* for specified requirements.

Animal fibre

- (6) Refer to MPI *Import Health Standard for Animal Fibre, ANIFIBRE.ALL* for specified requirements

Biosecurity treatments for destruction or disposal

MPI *Standard for Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods*, MPI-STD-TFGEN sets out requirements for transitional facilities dealing with the management of biosecurity refuse and risk goods.

- (7) To obtain biosecurity clearance, returned New Zealand animal products that cannot meet 1.5 (1) a) and documentation requirements of this standard, and that are not treated with commodity-specific treatments (due to regulatory or non-regulatory reasons) must be managed in accordance with one of the following options:
- a) Incineration
 - b) Steam sterilisation
 - c) Fumigation
 - d) Decontamination
 - e) Irradiation
 - f) Deep burial

(From MPI *Standard for Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods*, MPI-STD-TFGEN)

Note: Some of the above biosecurity treatments will result in the returned New Zealand animal products being unsuitable for its original intended purpose. Please check with your transitional facility operators or biosecurity treatment suppliers.

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