



Fresh and Frozen Truffles for Consumption

MPI.IHS.FP.TRUFFLE

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Consultation

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Fresh and Frozen Truffles for Consumption

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on the date of issue.

REVOCATION

Nil

ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington this day of September 2016

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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 requirements for the importation of fresh produce for consumption into New Zealand from all countries.

Background

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

Each IHS issued under the Act specifies requirements to be met for the effective management of risks associated with importing goods that may pose a biosecurity threat to New Zealand.

This IHS includes requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit and importation, and before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Who should read this?

This IHS applies to importers of fresh produce imported for consumption into New Zealand and the exporting country National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO).

Why is it important?

It is the responsibility of the importer 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.

If any viable regulated pests are intercepted on arrival in New Zealand, the consignment will be treated, reshipped or destroyed, and depending on the regulated pest intercepted, the pathway may be suspended.

Penalties may be applied under the Act if fresh produce imported for consumption are propagated.

Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

Equivalence

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) may consider a pre-export application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure to be approved, different from that provide for in this IHS, to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the current measures in this IHS.

Equivalence will be considered with reference to the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM), Publication No.24: *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

Document history

Refer to Appendix 2 for the Amendment Record for this IHS.

Other Information

Truffles for propagation are eligible for import into New Zealand and are covered by IHS: *Truffles for Propagation*: MPI.IHS.TUBER

Cooked, dried or processed truffles for consumption are eligible for import into New Zealand and are covered by IHS: *Importation into New Zealand of stored plant products intended for human consumption*: BNZ.NPP.HUMAN.

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Part 1: General Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This import health standard (IHS) applies to the goods described in Part 2.1: *Commodity description*.

1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) The following documents are incorporated by reference under section 142M of the Act:
[MPI Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities \(BORIC\)](#);
[International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPM\)](#).
- (2) Under section 142O(3) of the Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply, that is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces any material incorporated by reference has legal effect as part of those documents.

1.3 Acronyms and definitions

- (1) Acronyms and definitions are listed in Appendix 1.

1.4 General

- (1) All consignments of fresh produce imported for consumption into New Zealand must:
 - a) meet the requirements of an IHS before receiving biosecurity clearance;
 - b) be free from viable regulated pests based on official inspection;
 - c) be packaged in clean inert/synthetic material; and
 - d) be shipped in a secure manner to prevent contamination by regulated pests.

1.5 Exporting country systems

- (1) Importers may only import from a country where the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) has provided evidence, to the satisfaction of an MPI Chief Technical Officer (CTO), of the national systems/programmes and standards used for export assurance in accordance with ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary Certification System*.
- (2) The national systems/programmes and standards are subject to audit by MPI.

1.6 Export plans

- (1) MPI and the exporting country NPPO must negotiate a country-specific Export Plan that demonstrates how *Targeted Measures* and *MPI- Specified Measures* will be achieved before trade can commence.
- (2) The Export Plan must include detail of the activities that support the effective application of *Targeted Measures* and *MPI- Specified Measures*. Supporting activities include product traceability, training, record management, phytosanitary inspection, certification and phytosanitary security.
- (3) The negotiated and agreed Export Plan is subject to review by MPI.
- (4) Recognised countries and approved commodities are listed on the MPI website:
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/registers-and-lists/>.

Guidance

- Export Plans are not required for truffles imported for consumption.
- An Export Plan is only necessary when *Targeted Measures* and/or *MPI- Specified Measures* are required.

1.7 Permit to import

- (1) All consignments of fresh and frozen truffles imported for consumption require a permit to import.

Guidance

- Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website using this link: <https://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/11488>.
- The transitional facility must be approved to MPI standard 155.04.03: *A standard for diagnostic facilities which undertake the identification of new organisms, excluding animal pathogens*.
- MPI Plant Health and Environment Laboratory (PHEL) is an approved transitional facility for diagnostic testing of truffles. Contact details for transitional facilities can be found using this link: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1047>.

1.8 Transport requirements

- (1) If a consignment is either opened, stored, split up or has its packaging changed prior to arrival in New Zealand, a phytosanitary certificate for re-export is required from the transiting country, in accordance with ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary Certificates*, and must accompany each consignment.
- (2) Each container must be labelled with the common and scientific name of each species of truffle. When more than one species is being exported in the same consignment, each species must be separately wrapped.

Guidance

- A consignment that arrives in New Zealand without an import permit or certification, or accompanied by incorrect certification, may be directed to a transitional facility until documentation is presented.
- Truffles may be kept cool with ice pads. These may be replaced in-transit provided individual packages are not opened.

Part 2: Specific Requirements

2.1 Commodity description

- (1) This IHS specifies the requirements for the importation of fresh and frozen truffles for consumption from all countries.
- (2) Fresh and frozen truffles for consumption are defined as clean truffles free of contaminating soil or other material.
- (3) The following four species are eligible for import into New Zealand:
 - a) *Tuber aestivum* Vittad. (synonym *T. uncinatum*) – Burgundy truffle;
 - b) *Tuber borchii* (synonym *T. albidum*) – Bianchetto;
 - c) *Tuber magnatum* – Italian white truffle; and
 - d) *Tuber melanosporum* – Périgord black truffle.

Guidance

- For additional truffle species to this IHS, please contact the Environmental Protection Agency using this link: <http://www.epa.govt.nz/new-organisms/find-application-form/Pages/default.aspx>.
- It is an offence under the Act to use goods for any other purpose than intended end use.

2.2 Pest list

- (1) The list of regulated pests known to be associated with truffles can be found on MPI website at this link: <http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/13771>.
- (2) The full list of regulated and non-regulated pests for New Zealand can be found in MPI [BORIC](http://archive.mpi.govt.nz/applications/boric) (<http://archive.mpi.govt.nz/applications/boric>).

Guidance

- If, during an official inspection, the verifying NPPO detects a pest that is not listed on [BORIC](http://archive.mpi.govt.nz/applications/boric) MPI may be contacted to establish the regulatory status of the pest.

2.3 Basic Measures

- (1) All truffles must be sourced from production sites that use standard cultivation methods for commercial export truffle production; including pest-control, harvesting, sorting, cleaning, inspection and packaging.

Guidance

- *Basic Measures* are required to manage pests and other regulated organisms that present a risk to New Zealand on this pathway.
- Evidence of soil and bacterial rot will be visible to the naked eye. A 10x magnification lens may be used for more detailed surface inspection to detect signs of infestation by burrowing pests.
- Washing may remove soil and other contaminants, including pest eggs and larvae.

Part 3: Documentation Requirements

3.1 Phytosanitary inspection

- (1) The NPPO must:
 - a) sample and visually inspect each consignment according to official procedures in accordance with ISPM 23: *Guidelines for Inspection* for all the regulated pests required by New Zealand;
 - b) verify that the *Basic Measures* have been applied as outlined in Part 2.3: *Basic Measures*;
 - c) reconcile the number of packages presented for inspection is consistent with documentation;
 - d) verify that traceability labelling is complete; and
 - e) verify that phytosanitary security is maintained for the consignment.

3.2 Phytosanitary certification

- (1) The NPPO must issue and supply a phytosanitary certificate in accordance with ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary Certificates* to accompany each consignment of fresh and frozen truffles exported to New Zealand with the following declaration:
 - a) *"This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests".*
- (2) The phytosanitary certificate must contain sufficient detail to enable identification of the consignment and its component parts. Information must include country/place of origin and meet all requirements that are listed in Part 2: *Specific Requirements* and Part 3: *Documentation Requirements*

Guidance

- A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if viable regulated organism(s) are detected, unless the consignment is effectively treated.
- Country/place of origin is defined as a country where the plants, from which the plant products are derived, were grown or, place of origin; where the commodity was grown or produced.

3.3 Species validation

3.3.1 Morphological examination and report

- (1) All fresh and frozen truffles must undergo morphological examination to confirm species identity. The examination must be conducted pre-export and undertaken by persons trained to identify truffle species by visual and aroma characteristics.
- (2) An examination report is required and must be issued on the company letterhead by a person authorised to act on behalf of the company and must include the following information:
 - a) authorised person's name, signature, job title and date of issue;
 - b) truffle species and genus; and
 - c) MPI import permit number.
- (3) The report must contain the following statement:
 - a) *"Each truffle has been identified as a species eligible for import under the MPI import health standard: Fresh and Frozen Truffles for Consumption: MPI.IHS.FP.TRUFFLES."*

3.3.2 Molecular testing and report

- (1) MPI reserve the right to conduct random audits and onshore molecular testing to confirm that the species matches that which is stated on the phytosanitary certificate.

- (2) Upon arrival in New Zealand, if selected for audit, the consignment will be directed to the transitional facility stated on the permit.
- (3) A report from the transitional facility will be provided to the importer and MPI Plant Imports. The report must contain the following statement:
- a) *“The selected truffle(s) has undergone molecular testing; ”*
- AND
- b) *“The selected truffle(s) has been identified as a species eligible for import under the MPI import health standard: Fresh and Frozen Truffles for Consumption: MPI.IHS.FP.TRUFFLES.”*
- (4) The report must contain the MPI import permit number.

Guidance

- One or more truffles will be randomly selected from each species and a small slice of each taken. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and DNA sequence analysis are used to confirm species identity.
- Detection of any species of truffle not included in this IHS may result in the permit being revoked or further permit applications from the same supplier being declined.
- Provided all other requirements of this IHS have been met, the remainder of the consignment (including the selected truffle(s)) will be given biosecurity clearance and released to the importer.
- The importer is responsible for all costs incurred.

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Appendix 1: Acronyms and Definitions

Definitions have the same meaning as defined by the Act and ISPM 5: *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms* (2012), unless set out below:

Arrival (in New Zealand)

In relation to goods, means to reach land within New Zealand territory after a flight or voyage originating outside New Zealand territory.

Basic Measures

Commodities must be commercially produced using standard cultivation, pest-control, harvesting, inspection and packing activities. *Basic Measures* are applied to all fresh produce to manage the associated regulated pests.

BORIC

Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities: MPI database which informs on the regulatory status for an organism as either regulated or non-regulated for New Zealand. BORIC is available at <http://archive.mpi.govt.nz/applications/boric>.

Consignment

One or more lots imported by one importer, on one conveyance at one time, and covered by one phytosanitary certificate.

Country / place of origin

Country/place of origin is defined as country where the plants, from which the plant products are derived, were grown or place of origin; where the commodity was grown or produced.

IPPC

International Plant Protection Convention.

ISPM

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. The list of ISPMs are available from: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/ispm/>.

MPI-Specified Measures

MPI-Specified Measures are prescribed measures set out by MPI in the import health standard. They are reserved for pests presenting a very high risk to New Zealand, such as economically important fruit flies, and have known efficacy to detect, remove or kill those pests.

NPPO

National Plant Protection Organisation – the official organisation established by a government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC.

Non-regulated pest

Non-regulated organisms are those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would not be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected. These may include new organisms which could not establish in New Zealand.

Pathway

A series of activities that, when carried out according to documented procedures, form a discrete and traceable export system.

Pest

Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plant or plant products [IPPC].

Regulated Pest

A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest as set out in BORIC.

Targeted Measures

Targeted Measures may be proposed by the exporting country and must be negotiated with MPI. The *Targeted Measure* must be effective in reducing the risk of the regulated pest associated with the commodity to an acceptable level. The details of any *Targeted Measure* should be incorporated into the Export Plan.

Viable

Any organism that is capable of development and/or reproduction, including insects, plants, seeds and other organisms that have not been through a de-vitalisation or sterilisation treatment.

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Appendix 2: Amendment Record

The following table provides a summary of the amendments to this import health standard.

Number:	Details:	Date:

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