



Risk Management Proposal

Used Equipment Associated with Animals or Water

28 June 2017

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1 Purpose

- (1) The purpose of this document is to:
 - a) Summarise the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of used equipment associated with terrestrial and aquatic animals and activities related to these animals.
 - b) Show how options for the management of risk organisms have been assessed.
 - c) Provide recommendations for the import requirements for the Import Health Standard (IHS): *Used Equipment Associated with Animals or Water*, ANIEQUIP.ALL (formerly ANIEQPIC.ALL).

2 Background

- (1) The existing IHS: *Used Equipment Associated with Animals or Water* (ANIEQPIC.ALL dated 1 May 2010) outlines the requirements for the importation of used equipment that has been in contact with terrestrial and aquatic animals.
- (2) Border inspectors have noted discrepancies in the treatment requirements between ANIEQPIC.ALL, the relevant live animal IHSs and the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#) dated 12 July 2012) standard, making it confusing as to which set of requirements should be applied.
- (3) These standards were reviewed and aligned to provide consistency in the management of biosecurity risks associated with used equipment.
- (4) An import risk analysis (IRA) specific to used equipment associated with animals or water is not available. The risk management measures in the draft IHS: ANIEQUIP.ALL are based on IRAs for the relevant commodities (where available). These IRAs were reviewed in the context of determining which diseases could be transmitted via contact with used equipment (i.e. fomites).
 - a) MPI IRA: *Guinea Pigs (Cavia porcellus) from Australia* (dated March 2014).
 - b) MPI IRA: *Cats, Dogs and Canine Semen* (dated 2 November 2009).
 - c) MPI IRA: *Cattle from Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States of America* (dated 13 February 2009).
 - d) MPI IRA: *Llamas and Alpacas from Specified Countries* (dated 14 December 2010).
 - e) MPI IRA: *Horses and Horse Semen* (20 January 2000).
 - f) MPI IRA: *Hides and Skins from Specified Animals* (dated April 2008).
 - g) MPI IRA: *Chicken and Duck Meat for Human Consumption* (dated August 2013).
- (5) A copy of these IRAs can be found at the following MPI website:
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/import-health-standards/risk-analysis/>.

3 Objective

- (1) The objective is to manage animal biosecurity risks posed by the import of used equipment associated with animals or water, consistent with New Zealand's domestic legislation and international obligations.

4 Commodity Scope

- (1) For the purposes of this IHS, used equipment is broadly defined to include any used equipment that has been in contact with terrestrial or aquatic animals where such used equipment may act as a vehicle for transmitting biosecurity risk organisms. Used equipment includes that:
 - a) Accompanying an animal being imported to New Zealand (e.g. worn by the animal or inside/attached to the container transporting the animal).
 - b) In personal effects (e.g. luggage, shipping containers, mail).

5 Proposed Risk Management Measures

- (1) The existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL separates terrestrial animals into two broad categories:

- a) Terrestrial animals (excluding equine animals and birds) including small pets (chinchillas, guinea pigs, rabbits, etc.), companion animals (dogs and cats) and farm animals (ruminants, lamoids and pigs).
 - b) Equine animals (e.g. horses, donkeys and mules) and birds.
- (2) The existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL outlines the biosecurity requirements for used equipment and references the MPI-STD-ABTRT for treatment options. For treatment options that are derived from formal risk analyses, the RMP proposes to relocate treatment options (where appropriate) from MPI-STD-ABTRT to the draft IHS: ANIEQUIP.ALL to allow for ongoing assessment and amendment by the Animal Imports team.
 - (3) Additionally, the RMP proposes to separate treatment options for equine animals and birds as biosecurity measures for the two groups are sufficiently different to warrant two distinctive sets of requirements.
 - (4) Regarding used bee equipment, only uncapping knives were eligible for import in the existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL. The RMP proposes that no used bee equipment be eligible for import. This will be reviewed in the future when import requirements for bee products are consulted.
 - (5) No bedding accompanying an animal was permitted under the existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL. No changes are proposed for the draft IHS: ANIEQUIP.ALL other than for small pets and farm animals. The RMP proposes that bedding accompanying small pets and farm animals be eligible for biosecurity clearance with the animals when the animals have also been given biosecurity clearance. Biosecurity clearance of the animals will ensure no additional biosecurity risk will be posed by biosecurity clearance of their bedding.
 - (6) The RMP proposes to clarify the 48-hour holding time requirements for used veterinary kits associated with equine animals carried by travel groomers. The 48-hour holding time is only applicable for those kits that are intended to depart with another shipment of horses from New Zealand, and that have accompanied an imported shipment of horses requiring quarantine in New Zealand or have been used on quarantine horses in the last 48 hours.

5.1 Terrestrial animals other than equine animals and birds

5.1.1 Existing requirements in IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL

- (1) The eligibility requirements for used equipment associated with terrestrial animals are:
 - a) Used equipment must be clean; and
 - b) Used equipment associated with alpacas, llamas, cattle, buffalo, pigs, sheep and goats containing absorbent material (e.g. rope halters) must be completely dry; and
 - c) No ticks or fleas are found on the used equipment.
- (2) The treatment options in MPI-STD-ABTRT are:
 - a) Cleaned to remove any visible contamination; and
 - b) Treated with a disinfectant listed in MPI *List of Approved Disinfectants for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods*.

5.1.2 Discussion: Small pets

- (1) Biosecurity risks associated with the importation of chinchillas and rabbits are similar to those of guinea pigs.
- (2) The RMP proposes that bedding accompanying guinea pigs, chinchillas and rabbits is eligible for biosecurity clearance with the animals when it complies with the applicable live animal IHS, and when the animals have been given biosecurity clearance.

5.1.3 Discussion: Companion animals

- (1) Bedding accompanying companion animals is not eligible for import under the IHS: *Cats and Dogs*. The following discussion relates only to used equipment imported as personal effects, i.e. excludes bedding accompanying companion animals.

- (2) Used equipment that is commonly imported in personal effects includes pet beds, toys and grooming items. They often do not meet the existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL due to contamination with hair or fur. Additionally they often contain fabric that may be difficult to disinfect once the hair or fur is removed.
- (3) The requirement for disinfection following hair removal may be unnecessary as only two biosecurity risk organisms, *Brucella* spp. and *Leptospira* spp., are able to transmit infection via fomites (IRA: *Cats, Dogs and Canine Semen*). *Brucella* spp. are self-limiting in dogs whereas *Leptospira* spp. is unlikely to transmit infection via completely dry used equipment.
- (4) The current treatment by a disinfectant for used equipment associated with companion animals imported as personal effects is an unnecessary burden on border staff and cost to importers. The RMP proposes that when the used equipment associated with companion animals imported as personal effects is contaminated only with hair or fur, treatment with a disinfectant is not required.

5.1.4 Discussion: Farm animals

- (1) Of the potential hazards identified in the IRA: *Cattle from Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States of America* and IRA: *Llamas and Alpacas from Specified Countries*, the only biosecurity risk organisms which could potentially be transmitted via fomites are Borna Disease, foot and mouth disease (FMD), *Brucella* spp., *Pasteurella multocida*, *Salmonella* spp., *Leptospira* spp., *Chlamydomphila* spp., *Coxiella burnetii* (Q fever).
- (2) Of these diseases, the most highly contagious and economically devastating biosecurity risk organism would be FMD virus. FMD virus may be infective for several weeks and possibly longer in dried organic material and animal secretions or chemically inert material such as hair. However, completely dry material is not likely to harbour FMD as the virus is sensitive to desiccation. Although the IRAs do not address inactivating agents effective against FMD virus, the MPI *List of Approved Disinfectants for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods* evaluated and approved selected disinfectants with respect to FMD, swine vesicular disease and poultry diseases.
- (3) The treatment measures in the existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL are considered appropriate and no change is recommended.

5.1.5 Recommendations

Bedding accompanying animals

- (1) Bedding accompanying guinea pigs, chinchillas, rabbits and farm animals is eligible for biosecurity clearance with the animals when bedding accompanying the animals complies with the applicable live animal IHS, and when the animals have been given biosecurity clearance.
- (2) Bedding accompanying all other animal species is not eligible for biosecurity clearance. Bedding must be removed and disposed of as biosecurity waste in accordance with procedures of the transitional facility.

Used equipment (excluding bedding accompanying animals) associated with terrestrial animals other than bees, equine animals and birds

- (1) Used equipment is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is imported on or with an animal that has been given biosecurity clearance.
- (2) Used equipment is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is:
 - a) Free from ectoparasites (e.g. fleas, ticks); or
 - i) Treated in accordance with the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#)) to eliminate ectoparasites; and
 - b) Clean, completely dry, and free from visible contamination or treated as follows:
 - i) Washed or cleaned to remove any visible contamination; and
 - ii) Disinfected with an agent listed in the MPI [List of Approved Disinfectants for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods](#), excepting used equipment that is only contaminated with dog and cat fur/hair.

5.2 Equine animals and birds

5.2.1 Existing requirements in IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL

- (1) The requirements for equine animals and birds are:
 - a) The used equipment must be clean; and
 - b) The used equipment must be treated on arrival; or
 - i) The used horse equipment is imported from Australia.
- (2) The treatment options in MPI-STD-ABTRT are:
 - a) Thoroughly cleaned by washing with soapy water, standard detergents or approved disinfectant; or
 - b) Heat treated at 60°C for at least 10 minutes; or
 - c) Fumigated with 37% formalin at 20ml/m³ and 16g potassium for eight hours at Atm, 18°C, 80-90% humidity.

5.2.2 Discussion: Equine animals

- (1) From the IRA: *Horses and Horse Semen*, potential hazards transmitted via fomites are equine influenza (EI), vesicular stomatitis (VS), horse pox and glanders. EI is highly contagious; however, the virus does not survive long outside the host (e.g. up to 24-48 hours on nonporous surfaces and 8-12 hours on cloth and paper) and is sensitive to detergents and disinfectants due to its lipid envelope.
- (2) VS virus may survive for six days (dried) at ambient temperatures and is sensitive to common detergents and disinfectants. Though horse pox virus may be transmitted via fomites, the IRA: *Hides and Skins from Specified Animals* concluded that horse pox is not considered a potential hazard as it causes a rare disease that may no longer exist. There are no risk mitigation measures for VS and horse pox in the IHS for horses, and accordingly, no measures should be applied for used equipment. The bacterium causing glanders does not survive long outside the host being destroyed by direct sunlight within a day and is sensitive to most disinfectants.
- (3) EI virus is inactivated when heated to a temperature of 50°C for 30 minutes or by exposure to sunlight (15°C for 15 minutes). Outside the host, the bacterium causing glanders shows little resistance to drying, heat and light and survival beyond two weeks is unlikely. Given that EI virus and glanders are likely to be inactivated with moderate heating, no change to the heating treatment is proposed.
- (4) All of the equine organisms identified above are sensitive to treatment with formaldehyde disinfection.
- (5) Given that these organisms may not survive long under clean and dry conditions at room temperature, it is proposed that clean and completely dry used horse equipment which has been stored for at least six weeks be exempt from treatment on arrival into New Zealand. Six weeks is an average period of time for personal effects to arrive via sea freight.

5.2.3 Recommendations for used equipment (including used veterinary kits) associated with equine animals

- (1) Used equipment is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is imported on or with an animal that has been given biosecurity clearance.
- (2) Used equipment (including used veterinary kits) from Australia is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is:
 - a) Free from ectoparasites; or
 - i) Treated in accordance with the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#)) to eliminate ectoparasites; and
 - b) Clean and free from visible contamination or treated with one of the following:
 - i) Washed thoroughly using a standard detergent; or
 - ii) Cleaned and treated with a disinfectant listed in the MPI [List of Approved Disinfectants for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods](#); or
 - iii) Fumigated with 10% formaldehyde (approximately 30% formalin) for 8 hours; or
 - iv) Heated to a temperature of at least 60°C for at least 10 minutes.

- (3) Used equipment (including used veterinary kits) from countries other than Australia is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is:
 - a) Free from ectoparasites (e.g. fleas, ticks); or
 - i) Treated in accordance with the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#)) to eliminate ectoparasites; and
 - b) Clean, free from visible contamination and meet one of the following:
 - i) Shown by verifiable evidence that it has not come into contact with any equine animals in the last 6 weeks; or
 - ii) Treated in accordance with a treatment option listed in 5.2.3 (2)(b).

5.2.4 Discussion: Birds

- (1) Newcastle disease (ND), avian influenza (AI), infectious bursal disease (IBD), duck hepatitis, water fowl parvoviruses, and Marek's disease (MD) may potentially be transmitted via fomites (IRA: *Chicken and Duck Meat for Human Consumption*).
- (2) The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the *Code*, 2016) Chapter 6.4 *Biosecurity Procedures in Poultry Production* recommends cleaning and disinfection procedures for poultry houses and equipment to be done in accordance with Chapter 4.13 *General Recommendations on Disinfection and Disinsection*, that is, thorough washing to physically remove contaminants followed by treatment with a disinfectant. The RMP proposes that the treatment requirements for used bird equipment be amended to align with the *Code's* recommendations.
- (3) The current temperature and time combination (i.e. 60°C for 10 minutes) outlined in MPI-STD-ABTRT is not sufficient to inactivate some bird diseases such as IBD virus. IBD is highly contagious and may remain infective for long periods of time in poultry houses and equipment. It is proposed that the heat treatment option for used bird equipment be removed as achieving an appropriate heat treatment would be difficult.
- (4) The IRA: *Hides and Skins from Specified Animals* assessed the susceptibility of poultry pathogens to formaldehyde disinfection and concluded that these organisms are likely to be sensitive to formaldehyde.

5.2.5 Recommendations for used equipment associated with birds

- (1) Used equipment is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is:
 - a) Free from ectoparasites (e.g. fleas, ticks); or
 - i) Treated in accordance with the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#)) to eliminate ectoparasites; and
 - b) Clean and free from visible contamination and treated with one of the following:
 - i) Thoroughly washed using a standard detergent and treated with a disinfectant listed in the MPI [List of Approved Disinfectants for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods](#); or
 - ii) Fumigated with 10% formaldehyde (approximately 30% formalin) for 8 hours.

5.3 Used veterinary kits associated with equine animals

5.3.1 Existing requirements in IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL

- (1) The requirements for veterinary kits associated with equine animals are:
 - a) The veterinary kit must be clean; and
 - b) The veterinary kit is imported from Australia; or
 - i) The veterinary kit is treated on arrival.
- (2) When used veterinary kits are not eligible for biosecurity clearance, or when biosecurity clearance is not required by the importer:

- a) Veterinary kits associated with equine animals from all countries other than Australia may be labelled, double bagged and held by MPI for at least 48 hours before these kits may leave New Zealand; or
- b) Veterinary kits associated with equine animals from Australia may be labelled, double bagged and held by MPI without minimum holding time applied before these kits may leave New Zealand.

5.3.2 Discussion

- (1) The 48-hour holding time was implemented in 2010 in response to border staff seeking advice on the minimum stand down period for veterinary kits which arrive with horses (non-Australian) going into post-arrival quarantine and where the kits are being re-used on horses for export from New Zealand. These kits would not be subject to inspection by border staff if biosecurity clearance is not required by the importer. The concern would be iatrogenic or mechanical transfer of risk organisms through used medical equipment (needles, syringes, etc.) or opened medications (liquid, multiple dose drugs) from quarantine horses to exported horses from New Zealand.
- (2) The holding time reflects the risk associated with EI. EI virus survives outside the host for up to 24-48 hours on nonporous surfaces and 8-12 hours on cloth and paper.
- (3) The existing requirement in the existing IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL does not specify further the conditions when the 48-hour holding time should be applied. The conditions being, the used veterinary kits have been used on quarantine horses and the used veterinary kits will depart with another shipment of horses from New Zealand.
- (4) Equine infectious anaemia (EIA) virus may survive on contaminated needles for up to 4 days (IRA: *Horses and Horse Semen*). It is unclear whether EIA was considered in the advice to border staff.

5.3.3 Recommendations for used veterinary kits associated with equine animals

- (1) Used veterinary kits associated with equine animals must be labelled, double-bagged and held by MPI for at least 48 hours when the veterinary kits:
 - a) Have accompanied or have been associated with an imported shipment of horses requiring quarantine in New Zealand, and
 - b) Are intended to depart with another shipment of horses from New Zealand.

5.4 Aquatic (marine or freshwater) animals or aquatic activities

5.4.1 Existing requirements in IHS: ANIEQPIC.ALL

- (1) The requirements for used equipment associated with marine and freshwater aquatic animals or marine and freshwater activities are:
 - a) The used equipment must be clean; and
 - b) All parts of the used equipment must be completely dry on arrival.

5.4.2 Discussion

- (1) The biosecurity risks associated with used aquatic equipment which is clean and completely dry is assessed as negligible.
- (2) Used aquatic equipment for commercial activities is out of the scope of the IHS.

5.4.3 Recommendations for used aquatic equipment

- (1) Used equipment is eligible for biosecurity clearance if it is clean, free from visible contamination and completely dry; or
 - a) Treated in accordance with the MPI *Approved Biosecurity Treatments* ([MPI-STD-ABTRT](#)) standard.