



Ref: CTO 2017 001 [B] Sheep and Goat Semen: Canada Veterinary Certification Amendment

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors relating to the clearance of semen from sheep from Canada according to the approved Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) veterinary certificate**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, give the following direction for sheep semen from Canada relating to whether to give clearance in accordance with the amended veterinary certificate from the Canada's CFIA. The amended veterinary certificate contains the following measure, different from the applicable IHS: *Semen and Embryos from Sheep and Goats* OVCAGERM.GEN (22 June 2015):

Maedi-visna virus (MV)

26. Donors were subjected to an ELISA test for MV in accordance with the OIE Manual, with negative results, at least 21 days after entering isolation and at least annually thereafter while in the collection centre, as prescribed by the CFIA Artificial Insemination Program  
and

27. donors were subjected to a CF test for ovine epididymitis (*B. ovis*) as described in the OIE Manual, with negative results, during the 30 days prior to collection.

The IRA indicates that the MV virus is not transmitted in semen, unless there are testicular lesions. The IRA states that ruling out testicular lesions by testing for *Brucella ovis* infection, manages the risk that MC could enter semen. This new measure replaces the flock freedom requirement with *B. ovis* testing.

I consider the proposed amended certificate, with a clause different to that in the IHS, sets measures that effectively manage the risks.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

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