



Ref: CTO 2017 006 [B]      Sheep and Goat Embryos: Canada Veterinary Certification Amendment

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors relating to the clearance of embryos 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, Manager Animal Imports, give the following directions for sheep embryos from Canada relating to whether to give clearance in accordance with the amended veterinary certificate from 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)

25. Donors were subjected to an ELISA test for MV in accordance with the OIE Manual, with negative results, at least 21 days after entering the collection flock and at least annually thereafter while in the collection flock and

26. All embryos were washed in trypsin, according to the recommendations of IETS.

The following paper indicates that MV is not transmitted through transfer of in vivo derived, either intact or micromanipulated sheep embryos, provided washing and trypsin treatment is applied immediately after collection.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/200048903\\_Exploitation\\_of\\_embryos\\_collected\\_from\\_Maedi-Visna\\_seropositive\\_ewes\\_during\\_eradication\\_programs](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/200048903_Exploitation_of_embryos_collected_from_Maedi-Visna_seropositive_ewes_during_eradication_programs).

I consider the proposed 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.