

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF PRE- COOKED HEAT-AND-EAT MEALS CONTAINING ANIMAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM AUSTRALIA

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 01 November 2001

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections that outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

- 1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of pre-cooked heat-and-eat meals containing animal products for human consumption from Australia.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of pre-cooked heat-and-eat meals containing animal products imported into New Zealand is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating

country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of pre-cooked heat-and-eat meals containing animal products shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Animal products

Includes mammalian meat, fish, eggs and dairy products.

Biosecurity Clearance

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Director Animal Biosecurity

The Director Animal Biosecurity, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

Equivalence

Acceptance by the Director Animal Biosecurity that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

Heat-and-eat meals

Means fresh, frozen, freeze-dried or de-hydrated foods portioned and packaged with the intent of consumption after rehydration and/or heating.

Inspector

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

MAF

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Sealed Packaging

The packaging is impervious and sealed at the point of manufacture. The original packaging must be intact i.e. has not been opened.

4 EQUIVALENCE

- 4.1 It is expected that the animal product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to MAF for consideration. Detailed information supporting the application for equivalence must be forwarded to MAF for a decision.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 Importation into New Zealand of pre-cooked heat-and-eat meals containing animal products which meet the requirements of this import health standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

6 ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 The product must be commercially packaged and sealed in foil or plastic. The product is not required to be shelf stable.
- 6.2 Pre-cooked heat-and-eat meals containing poultry meat may not be imported under this import health standard.

7 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER

- 7.1 The importer shall supply the following information:
- i. name and address of exporter,
 - ii. name and address of manufacturer,
 - iii. name and address of importer,
 - iv. description and type of product.

8 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 8.1 The required information, which must be in English, must be presented by the importer when requesting clearance for the consignment to enter New Zealand.

9 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

- 9.1 Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of section 7. ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

10 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

NONE REQUIRED

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