

# IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF INVERTEBRATES INTO NEW ZEALAND

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 03 May 2010

## PART A: GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

- 1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this is the import health standard for the importation of invertebrates into New Zealand. (New organism invertebrates may only be imported with the import health standard for the importation of new organism invertebrates into containment in New Zealand.)
- 1.2 The import health standard may be reviewed and amended if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy, or the animal health status of the exporting country, or for any other reason, at the discretion of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.

### 2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 It is the importers responsibility to ensure that their goods are compliant with the current relevant import health standard at the time of importation. Current versions of import health standards are available [online](#). A register of import health standards is also publicly available for inspection at the office of the Director-General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand.
- 2.2 The costs to [MAF Biosecurity New Zealand](#) in performing functions relating to the importation of invertebrates must be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent

### 3 EQUIVALENCE

The import health standard has been agreed as suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the consignment will meet the conditions in every respect.

Occasionally it may be found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply with the specific requirements in this import health standard, but may meet the outcomes sought. In such cases, a permit to import application may be made, an equivalence granted and import permit issued at the discretion of MAF Biosecurity

New Zealand. The following information must be forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority for an equivalence to be considered:

- which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- the reason the consignment is considered to be of an "equivalent health" status;
- the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believe this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

#### **4 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Containment facility:** As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

**Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager**

The Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the delegated power and functions of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager

**Equivalence:** Acceptance by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand that measures that are not identical have the same effect.

**Transitional facility:** An approved facility for the purpose of inspection, testing, storage, treatment, quarantine, holding or destruction of uncleared goods, which may be harbouring pests or unwanted organisms, until a biosecurity clearance is given by an inspector.

### **PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE**

#### **5 PERMIT TO IMPORT**

5.1 Application for a permit to import must be made before the proposed date of importation in writing to:

Animal Imports Team  
MAF Biosecurity New Zealand  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington  
New Zealand.  
Email: [animalimports@maf.govt.nz](mailto:animalimports@maf.govt.nz)

5.2 A permit to import will be issued for multiple consignments for a period of up to six months.

5.3 Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard that describes the conditions under which invertebrates may be imported into New Zealand.

## **6 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER**

The importer must supply the following information:

- 6.1 name and address of exporter
- 6.2 number and species of the invertebrate to be imported
- 6.2 date of the proposed importation
- 6.3 name and address of the transitional and containment facility in New Zealand approved to the MAF Standard 154.02.08: Transitional and containment facility for invertebrates, to which the consignment is to proceed following importation
- 6.4 letter from the biosecurity inspector supervising the transitional facility showing that the facility is prepared for this consignment
- 6.5 port of arrival and route of transport to the transitional facility.

## **7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

An original certificate from the Director/Manager of the institution of origin certifying the identity of the species and any associated biota must accompany the shipment.

[Note: Any requirement for the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) or other conservation related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer and is independent of this certification.]

## **8 ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION**

The permit to import accompanying the consignment must identify the eligible invertebrate species which must not be a new organism as defined by the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

## **9 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND**

The invertebrates must be held in an approved container that prevents their escape and meets the International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

# **PART C: CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

## **10 BIOSECURITY AUTHORISATION**

- 10.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand, an Inspector must inspect the documentation accompanying the consignment, and may also inspect the packaging, at the port of arrival. The Inspector must not open the container holding the invertebrates.
- 10.2 Material in a broken, leaking or permeable container must be destroyed or reshipped from the port of entry.
- 10.3 The package is to be sealed by the inspector with an approved seal (e.g. tape, MAF seal, padlock) to ensure security has been maintained between the time of application and removal in the transitional facility
- 10.4 An Inspector will authorise movement of the consignment to the transitional facility named in the permit to import, providing that the documentation meets the requirements noted in section DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY.
- 10.5 The inspector is to notify the biosecurity inspector responsible for the transitional facility named on the permit that the invertebrates have been directed to that facility.

## **11 TRANSITIONAL FACILITY**

- 11.1 Following biosecurity authorisation being given, the container must proceed to the approved registered transitional facility which must be operated according to the MAF Standard 154.02.08: Transitional and containment facility for invertebrates.
- 11.2 On arrival in the transitional facility the culture must be subjected to such disease testing, identity confirmation, treatments or procedures as required by the permit to import, the MAF Standard 154.02.08 and the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager.
- 11.3 The seals on the package may be inspected by an Inspector before the package is opened and the invertebrates placed in quarantine under his/her supervision.

## **12 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

- 12.1 On successful completion of the requirements of quarantine outlined in section 11 and on the recommendation of the Animal Imports/Exports Group Manager, the invertebrate culture will be issued a biosecurity clearance by the biosecurity officer and released to the importer.

**INVNONIC.ALL**