

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF ALLIGATOR (*Alligator mississippiensis*) MEAT INTO NEW ZEALAND FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation of alligator meat into New Zealand from the United States.

2. PERMIT TO IMPORT

2.1 A permit to import is not required for the importation of this product.

2.2 Authorization, in the form of biosecurity clearance, will be given at the border after verification that the conditions within this import health standard have been met by the importer.

3. INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER

The importer shall supply the following information:

3.1 name and address of exporter;

3.2 name and address of manufacturer;

3.3 description and type of product;

3.4 official number of United States premises (for meat).

4. REVIEW OF IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

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 originating country, or for any other reason, at the discretion of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

5. DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

A copy of the import health standard, together with all the required information and ORIGINAL certification, which must be in English, must be presented at the New Zealand border when requesting clearance of the consignment.

6. IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 All costs associated with the importation, which include testing, treatment, transport, servicing and veterinary certification must be borne by the importer.
- 6.2 Please note that commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with the Food Regulations (1984) of New Zealand. Importers are advised to contact the New Zealand Ministry of Health if in doubt whether or not imported foods are eligible for sale within New Zealand.
- 6.3 Once the consignment has been cleared for entry, it is the importer's responsibility to ensure that the consignment complies with requirements under the Meat Act (1981). A set of guidelines outlining these responsibilities may be obtained from:

Import Management & Quarantine
PO Box 2526
Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry
WELLINGTON

- 6.4 Please note that each consignment must be accompanied by an original Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) export permit issued by the United States authorities. All CITES export permits must be forwarded to the New Zealand Department of Conservation on arrival of the consignment. Importers are advised to contact the New Zealand Department of Conservation for further details.

7. HEALTH CERTIFICATION

Each consignment must be accompanied by a certificate issued by an official government veterinary officer which states that:

- 7.1 the meat was derived from farmed alligators slaughtered in the United States of America.
- 7.2 the meat was derived from animals which passed veterinary ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection at the time of slaughter.
- 7.3 the meat was processed in licensed premises under the supervision of the controlling authority in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- 7.4 the meat products are sound and fit for human consumption.

8. BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

A Biosecurity Clearance will be issued provided the documentation is in order.

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