

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR CROCODILE MEAT PRODUCTS FROM AUSTRALIA

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 18 January 2010

The information in this import health standard is in four parts:

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION describes the legal basis for this import health standard and the general responsibilities of the importer.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE outlines whether a permit is required, the conditions of eligibility, and documentation that may need to accompany the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE describes the clearance requirements at the New Zealand border and, if necessary, whether the consignment must go to a transitional facility or containment facility.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed fully 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 crocodile meat products from Australia.
- 1.2 To obtain biosecurity clearance the consignment must meet the requirements of this import health standard.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 It is the importers responsibility to ensure that they 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 crocodile meat products from Australia 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

- 2.3 Where required, the consignment must be accompanied by a permit to export by the legislation of the country of origin and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES): www.cites.org. The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of origin of animal products in relation to international agreements on their trade, prior to export. Material arriving in New Zealand without a permit to export may be subject to seizure by the New Zealand Department of Conservation.
- 2.4 Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption in New Zealand must comply with the Food Act 1981. These requirements are independent of the import health standard requirements and are managed by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA). Importers are advised to contact the NZFSA or consult the NZFSA website: <http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/imported-food/index.htm>
- 2.5 Once the consignment has been given biosecurity clearance into New Zealand, it is the importer's responsibility to ensure that the consignment complies with the Animal Products Act 1999, especially if it is returned New Zealand product, product entering operations also used for the export of animal products, or if it is to be re-exported. Information about these requirements can be obtained from the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) website at: <http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/omar> or by contacting the local NZFSA Verification Agency office. Certification and other official assurance requirements which may be applicable are accessible at: <http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/manualsguides/oap/>

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

AQIS

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Biosecurity clearance

A clearance under section 26 of the Biosecurity Act (1993) for the entry of goods into New Zealand. (Explanatory Note: Goods given a Biosecurity Clearance by an Inspector are released to the importer without restriction).

Crocodile meat products

Includes all meat, bones and meat products (excluding offal) derived from farmed crocodile, *Crocodylus* spp.

Inspector

Means a person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act (1993). (Explanatory Note: An Inspector is appointed to undertake administering and enforcing the provisions of the Biosecurity Act and controls imposed under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996).

MAFBNZ

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand

Official veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of the OIE *Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

OIE Code

The World Organisation for Animal Health *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. Any reference in this standard to the OIE *Code* is to the most current as found on the OIE website

(www.oie.int)

Zoosanitary certificate

A veterinary health certificate issued by the exporting country in accordance with the OIE.

4 EQUIVALENCE

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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, equivalence granted and import permit issued at the discretion of MAF Biosecurity New Zealand. The following information must be forwarded by the Australian Competent Authority for 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 Australian Competent Authority believes this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 A permit to import is not required for consignments that meet the requirements of this import health standard.

6 ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to farmed crocodile meat products from Australia.
- 6.2 All requirements of this import health standard must be met for the products to be eligible for importation, including those detailed in PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.

7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 7.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.
- 7.2 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

8 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

- 8.1 On arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.
- 8.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of 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

9 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

- 9.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAFBNZ to accompany imports of crocodile meat products into New Zealand from Australia.

10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

COMMODITY: CROCODILE MEAT PRODUCTS

CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:

Agency: AUSTRALIAN QUARANTINE AND INSPECTION SERVICE

Country: AUSTRALIA

I. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT

(i). Name/s and address/es of processing premises:

(ii). Processing premises registration number:

II. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

(i). The commodity contained in this consignment is (describe form and packaging):

(ii). Amount (in kgs) of the consignment:

III. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

(i). Name and address of New Zealand importer:

IV. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION

1.1 The meat was derived from crocodiles farmed and slaughtered in Australia.

1.2 EITHER a. The crocodile meat products have been processed in premises under the supervision of the Australian Competent Authority.

AND

The crocodile meat products are derived from animals which were subjected to and passed ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspection.

OR b. The products are derived from farmed crocodiles of Australian origin and processed in accordance with the *Australian Standard for Hygienic Production of Crocodile Meat for Human Consumption*.

(Delete as appropriate)

1.3 The products are sound and fit for human consumption.

Signature of *Official Veterinarian*:

Date:

Name and address of office:

N.B. Official stamp of the Australian Competent Authority must be applied to all pages of zoosanitary certification.