

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF SURGICAL CATGUT FROM ALL COUNTRIES**

**Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993**

**Dated: 5 July 2004**

## **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, transport 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 and, if necessary, in a transitional facility in New Zealand 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 of surgical catgut into New Zealand from all countries.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of surgical catgut imported into New Zealand from all countries is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

### **2. REVIEW OF IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD**

- 2.1 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.

### **3. IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 3.1 The costs of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of surgical catgut shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 3.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.
- 3.3 In order to facilitate clearance at the border, documentation should accompany the consignment to enable an Inspector to determine that the consignment complies with eligibility conditions, such as a signed manufacturer's declaration.

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

#### **Biosecurity clearance**

A clearance for goods to enter New Zealand

#### **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.

#### **Inspector**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

#### **MAF**

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### **Official Veterinarian**

An official veterinarian means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of the chapter of the OIE *Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

#### **OIE Code**

The Office International des Epizooties *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

## **5. EQUIVALENCE**

- 5.1 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**

### **6. PERMIT TO IMPORT**

- 6.1 Consignments of surgical catgut into New Zealand 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.

### **7. ELIGIBILITY**

- 7.1 Surgical catgut that is manufactured from ovine or bovine tissues must be sourced from countries or zones free of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) according to the OIE *Code*.
- 7.2 Surgical catgut that is manufactured from ovine tissues must be sourced from countries or zones free of scrapie according to the OIE *Code*.
- 7.3 All requirements of this import health standard, including those detailed in the Model Zoosanitary Certificate must be met for the commodity to be eligible for importation.

### **8. DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

- 8.1 All consignments must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate which meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.
- 8.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual.
- 8.3 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**

### **9. BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

- 9.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival.
- 9.2 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**

### **10. NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION**

The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF to accompany imports of surgical catgut into New Zealand from all countries:

**MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

COMMODITY: SURGICAL CATGUT FROM ALL COUNTRIES

CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:

Agency: .....

Department: .....

Country: .....

**I. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

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

(ii) Processing premises registration number: .....

**II. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION**

(i) Nature of the commodity contained in this consignment (form, USP sizes and packaging): .....

(ii) Animal species product derived from: .....

(iii) Country of origin of the raw materials: .....

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

**III. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

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

**IV. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION**

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I, ....., being the Official Veterinarian authorised by the Government Veterinary Authority of ..... (country) certify, after due enquiry and on the basis of evidence provided by the Manufacturer that:

1. The surgical catgut is manufactured from ovine or bovine tissues sourced from countries or zones free of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) according to the *OIE Code*.
2. The surgical catgut is manufactured from ovine tissues sourced from countries or zones free of scrapie according to the *OIE Code*.

(Delete as applicable)

.....  
Signature of Official Veterinarian Date

.....  
Name and Address of Office

**Note: Official stamp of the Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country must be applied to all pages of the Zoosanitary Certification**

Ref:AI00-40I

SURGCATIC.ALL