# mport Health Standard

# Zoo Crocodilia and Zoo Crocodilia Hatching Eggs

**ZOOCROCS.SPE** 

9 March 2020

# TITLE

Import Health Standard: Zoo Crocodilia and Zoo Crocodilia Hatching Eggs

# COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on 9 March 2020

# REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following:

- a) Import Health Standard for Zoo Crocodilia from Australia, ZOOCRANIC.AUS, 21 April 2008
- b) Import Health Standard for Zoo Crocodilia Hatching Eggs from Australia, ZOOCREGIC.AUS, 21 April 2008

# **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

This Import Health Standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington, 9 March 2020

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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Ministry for Primary Industries Page 1 of 18

Introduction		Page
		3
Part 1: 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4	Requirements Application Incorporation by reference Definitions General requirements for import	<b>6</b> 6 6 6 6
1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 1.10	Pre-export isolation (PEI) Transport Import permit The documentation that must accompany goods Transitional and containment facility Transiting crocodilians	7 7 8 8 9 9
Part 2: 2.1 2.2 2.3	Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms  Edwardsiella tarda  Amblyomma species  Placobdelloides stellapapillosa	<b>11</b> 11 11 11
Part 3:	Model Veterinary Certificates	12
Schedule 1 – Document History		16
Schedule 2 – Definitions		17

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 2 of 18

# Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Import Health Standard (IHS), but is intended to indicate its general effect.

# **Purpose**

This IHS specifies the minimum requirements that must be met when importing animals and hatching eggs of the order crocodilia into zoo containment in New Zealand.

The biosecurity risk organisms associated with the crocodilians that are managed by this IHS are (refer to Part 2 for specified requirements):

- a) Edwardsiella tarda
- b) Amblyomma spp
- c) Placobdelloides stellapapillosa

# **Background**

The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.

Import health standards issued under the Act set out requirements to be met to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with importing goods. They include requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit, and before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Guidance boxes are included within this IHS for explanatory purposes. The guidance included in these boxes is for information only and has no legal effect.

# Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS should be read by importers of zoo crocodilia and zoo crocodilia hatching eggs from the European Union (EU), Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Thailand.

# Why is this important?

It is the importer's responsibility to ensure the requirements of this IHS are met. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and/or further information may be sought from importers. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may be re-shipped or destroyed under the Act or tested/treated in accordance with this IHS prior to release or equivalence determined. Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of zoo crocodilians and zoo crocodilian hatching eggs will be recovered in accordance with the Act and any regulations made under the Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 3 of 18

# **Equivalence**

The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may issue a direction under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that measures different from those set out in this IHS may be applied to effectively manage risks associated with the importation of these goods.

If an equivalent measure is approved, an import permit may be issued under section 24D(2) of the Act if the Director-General considers it appropriate to do so. The details of the CTO direction on equivalence will be included as notes in the special conditions section of the permit to inform the inspector's assessment of the commodity.

MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests.

Equivalence requests can be lodged with <a href="mailto:animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz">animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz</a>.

# Transitional facility

Any containers not intact on arrival will be required to be made secure before the consignment is moved to the transitional or containment facility. Any material which has leaked from the container will be destroyed at the port of entry.

# **Biosecurity authorisation**

A biosecurity authorisation may be given, by an Official Veterinarian, under section 25 of the Act, authorising direction of the zoo crocodilians or their hatching eggs to the transitional facility named on the MPI import permit.

# Inspection

On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector.

# **Document History**

Refer to Schedule 1.

# Other information

This is not an exhaustive list of compliance requirements and it is the importer's responsibility to be familiar with and comply with all New Zealand laws.

#### Import Health Standards

Other relevant IHSs must also be complied with before biosecurity clearance will be issued. These may include but are not limited to the following:

- a) All equipment entering New Zealand with the zoo crocodilians or zoo crocodilian hatching eggs must comply with the <a href="https://linear.org/linear.o
- b) Containers made of timber must meet the requirements of the following: <u>IHS: Woodware from All Countries</u>, 17 October 2018.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 4 of 18

#### **CITES**

It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that the consignment is accompanied by any permit(s) required to meet the legislation of the country of origin and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) <a href="http://www.cites.org">http://www.cites.org</a>. See the Department of Conservation for further details <a href="http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/role/international/endangered-species/">http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/role/international/endangered-species/</a>.

The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of animal in relation to international agreements on their trade, prior to export. Material arriving in New Zealand without the relevant CITES permits may be subject to seizure by the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

Any requirement for CITES or other conservation-related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer.

## **Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and new organisms**

Importers of new organisms must meet all requirements of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996.

Before an inspector can authorise a new organism to go to a containment facility, the EPA must have given approval for importation of that organism into containment in accordance with the HSNO Act.

### Harmonised System (HS) Codes

The harmonised system is an international product numbering classification developed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO). The New Zealand harmonised system is found here: <a href="http://aria.stats.govt.nz/aria/">http://aria.stats.govt.nz/aria/</a>

Animals imported using this IHS will be under one of the following HS Codes:

HS Code	Commodity Description
0106.20	Reptiles; live (including snakes and turtles)

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 5 of 18

# Part 1: Requirements

# 1.1 Application

(1) This IHS applies to imports of captive crocodilians and crocodilian hatching eggs from the European Union (EU), Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Thailand.

#### Guidance

• Only crocodilians with a containment approval from the EPA may be imported under this IHS.

# 1.2 Incorporation by reference

- (1) The following international standards are incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:
  - a) The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations a copy is available for reading, free of charge, at MPI.
  - b) The Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6 (equivalent to the New Zealand Marine Rules Part 24C), available free of charge: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2006L03643.
- (2) The following material is incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:
  - MPI Approved Diagnostic Tests, Vaccines, Treatments and Post-arrival Testing Laboratories for Animal Import Health Standards (MPI-STD-TVTL).
- (3) Under section 142O(3) of the Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply. That is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces the standards, guideline or lists incorporated under clauses 1.2(1) and (2) above has legal effect as part of this IHS.

#### Guidance

- Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements
- Where the IHS states that section 142O(1) of the Act does not apply, this means that importers need to refer to the most recent version of any standard, guidelines or lists that are incorporated by reference in the IHS.

# 1.3 Definitions

- (1) For the purposes of this IHS and the associated guidance, terms used that are defined in the Act have the meanings set out there. The Act is available at <a href="http://www.legislation.govt.nz/">http://www.legislation.govt.nz/</a>.
- (2) See Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

# 1.4 General requirements for import

- (1) In order to obtain authorisation into zoo containment each crocodilian must:
  - a) Have been hatched and reared in captivity and originate from a country that the CTO is satisfied meets the exporting country's system.
  - b) Have been monitored so that incidents of disease were identified promptly while in captivity.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 6 of 18

- c) Be identified by a microchip prior to export. The identification number must be shown on the veterinary certificate accompanying the crocodilians.
- d) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.5-1.7.
- e) Meet the specified requirements of *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms* of this IHS.
- f) Be accompanied by a veterinary certificate that meets the requirements of clause 1.8.2.
- g) Be directed to an MPI-approved transitional facility.
- (2) In order to obtain authorisation into zoo containment, each zoo crocodilian hatching egg must:
  - a) Be derived from crocodilians that have been hatched and reared in captivity, from a country that the CTO is satisfied meets the exporting country's system.
  - b) Be derived from crocodilians that were monitored so that incidents of diseases and death were identified promptly while in captivity.
  - c) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.6 and 1.7.
  - d) Meet the specified requirements for identified risk organisms of *Part 2* of this IHS.
  - e) Be accompanied by a veterinary certificate as required by clause 1.8.2.
  - f) Be visibly clean and free from contamination.
  - g) Be directed to an MPI-approved transitional facility.

# 1.5 Pre-export isolation (PEI)

- (1) Crocodilians must be:
  - a) Held in PEI premises for a minimum period of 30 days prior to the date of shipment.
  - b) Isolated from other animals not of equivalent health status.
  - c) Free from clinical signs of infectious disease for the entire PEI period.
- (2) The PEI premises must have been:
  - a) Approved and supervised by an Official Veterinarian.
  - b) Maintained free from ticks and leeches.
- (3) Bedding used in PEI must be clean and free from evidence of contamination with ticks, leeches and seeds.
- (4) Each crocodilian must be identified and examined in the 3 days prior to leaving the PEI premises for the port of export, by a registered veterinarian overseeing the care of the animal in PEI. The crocodilian must be free from clinical evidence of infectious disease, external parasites (including ticks and leeches), plant and seed contamination, and be fit for travel.

# 1.6 Transport

- (1) In the case of transport by:
  - a) Air: the transport facilities and arrangements must meet the relevant requirements published in the *IATA Live Animal Regulations*.
  - b) Sea: the transport facilities and arrangements must have been inspected and meet the requirements of the *Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6* (which is equivalent to the *New Zealand Marine Rules Part 24C*).
- (2) No animals other than those that meet the import requirements for entry into New Zealand are permitted to be transported with the zoo crocodilians or zoo crocodilian hatching eggs on the aircraft or ship.
- (3) Trans-shipment in any third country may not occur unless it is pre-approved by MPI and recorded on an import permit under section 24D.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 7 of 18

- (4) During transport to the port of departure and during transit to New Zealand, all bedding provided must be free from evidence of contamination with ticks, leeches and seeds.
- (5) Only sterilised peat, soft board or other approved inert products may be used as bedding.
- (6) The crates or pens used for transporting the zoo crocodilians or hatching eggs to New Zealand must be new or if previously used must be cleaned and disinfected by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.
- (7) Crocodilian hatching eggs must be packed to prevent spillage and placed into new or clean and disinfected containers in the presence of an Official Veterinarian before dispatch.
- (8) The containers in which the crocodilian hatching eggs are transported must be sealed by an Official Veterinarian using seals bearing a unique mark or identification number.
- (9) For crocodilians and crocodilian hatching eggs transported by air, the cargo space of the aircraft where the animals are to be transported must be sprayed prior to departure with an insecticidal spray approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.

# 1.7 Import permit

(1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required prior to the importation of consignments of zoo crocodilians and zoo crocodilian hatching eggs from the European Union (EU), Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Thailand.

# 1.8 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand and be accompanied with the documentation that is specified in, and meets the requirements of, clauses 1.8.1 and 1.8.2.
- (2) All documentation that is required by this clause to accompany crocodilians and crocodilian hatching eggs must:
  - a) Be original.
  - b) Accompany the imported goods.
  - c) Be in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible.
  - d) Be endorsed on every page by the Official Veterinarian with their original stamp, signature and date or be endorsed in the space allocated and all pages have paper based alternative security features.

#### Guidance

- Copies of all documents that are required to accompany the goods should be submitted to a NZ
   Official Veterinarian as early as possible to avoid delays in border clearance. The recommended
   timeframe is at least 7 working days in advance of arrival.
- Please email the applicable airport/port of arrival:

Auckland: <u>liveanimalsauckland@mpi.govt.nz</u>
 Wellington: <u>liveanimalswellington@mpi.govt.nz</u>
 Christchurch: liveanimalschristchurch@mpi.govt

# 1.8.1 Import permit

An import permit (copy acceptable) is required under this IHS.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 8 of 18

#### Guidance

- Application forms can be found on the MPI website at: <u>Live Animals into Containment or</u> <u>Transitional Facility</u>
- Completed applications need to be submitted to Animal Imports <u>animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz</u>
- The importer should complete all information requested on the application form.

## 1.8.2 Veterinary certificate

- (1) A veterinary certificate is required from the exporting country's Official Veterinarian. The veterinary certificate must include the following:
  - a) A unique consignment identifier.
  - b) The description, species, number of crocodilians or crocodilian hatching eggs and microchip identification for each animal.
  - c) Name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor).
  - d) Name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian.
  - e) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the general requirements outlined in *Part 1: Requirements* of this IHS have been met.
  - f) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the relevant requirements outlined in *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms* of this IHS have been met.

#### Guidance

A model veterinary certificate is located in Part 3: Model Veterinary Certificates of this document.

# 1.9 Transitional and containment facility

- (1) Following biosecurity authorisation being given under section 25 of the Act, the zoo crocodilians or zoo crocodilian hatching eggs must proceed directly to the transitional facility named on the import permit approved to <u>Facility Standard: Zoo Animals Transitional Facilities</u>, using a transport method approved by the Official Veterinarian.
- (2) Zoo crocodilians must remain in the transitional facility for no less than 30 days.
- (3) Crocodilians must be inspected weekly by an MPI inspector and, if showing clinical signs, tested for *Edwardsiella tarda* using an MPI-approved test.
- (4) The documentation must be checked to ensure it meets the requirements noted under general requirements in *Part 1* and specified requirements in *Part 2* of this IHS.
- (5) On satisfactory completion of the post arrival quarantine period, and providing that the documentation meets all the requirements of this IHS, an MPI Inspector will authorise the animals to be moved from the transitional facility to a containment facility, approved to the EPA <u>Standard for Zoo Containment Facilities</u>.
- (6) The crates must be cleaned and disinfected. After completion of quarantine all feed, bedding material and faeces from the transitional facility and crate must be destroyed by an MPI-approved method.
- (7) The zoo crocodilians and their offspring must remain permanently in a containment facility and may only be transferred to another containment facility with the prior biosecurity authority given under section 29 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

# 1.10 Transiting crocodilians

- (1) Crocodilians transiting through New Zealand must have, or be accompanied by:
  - a) An MPI transit permit.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 9 of 18

- b) A contingency plan that has been pre-approved by MPI.
- c) All the appropriate documents required by the final destination country.
- d) Appropriate CITES documents issued by the exporting country for species that require such documents.
- (2) Crocodilians transiting through New Zealand must meet the requirements of *Part 1* and *Part 2* of this IHS

# Guidance

• For information on transiting please contact Animal Imports <a href="mailto:animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz">animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz</a>

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 10 of 18

# Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms

(1) Crocodilians must comply with the following measures for identified risk organisms prior to import.

# 2.1 Edwardsiella tarda

- (1) Each crocodilian must be clinically healthy, and originate from premises that are under regular veterinary supervision; and follow a health monitoring programme including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitology testing.
- (2) Each crocodilian must be certified as originating from a captive population in which no isolation of *Edwardsiella tarda* has occurred.
- (3) Each zoo crocodilian must undergo a thorough inspection and be found to be free from clinical signs of infectious disease and appear fit for travel within 3 days prior to import.
- (4) On arrival in New Zealand, crocodilians must remain in post arrival quarantine at a transitional facility approved to <u>Facility Standard: Zoo Animals Transitional Facilities</u> for a period of at least 30 days. During this time the crocodilians must be inspected weekly and subjected to MPI approved testing for Edwardsiella tarda if displaying clinical signs.

# 2.2 Amblyomma species

- (1) The PEI premises must be kept free of ticks, including any bedding or feed introduced during PEI.
- (2) Each crocodilian must undergo a thorough tick inspection within 3 days prior to departure.

# 2.3 Placobdelloides stellapapillosa

- (1) The PEI premises must be kept free of leeches including in any bedding or feed introduced during PEI.
- (2) Each zoo crocodilian must undergo a thorough inspection for leeches within 3 days prior to departure.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 11 of 18

# **Part 3: Model Veterinary Certificates**

	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Address:		1.2. Certificate reference number:			
			1.3. Import permit number:			
			1.4. Competent Authority:			
	1.5. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:					
	1.6. Country of origin:  Australia Malaysia [ Indonesia Thailand [		1.7. Port of emb	arkatior	1:	
Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.8. Country of destination :		1.9. Port of arriv	al:		
	New Zealand 1.10. Place of origin:					
	Name: Address:					
Fart 1: Del	1.11. Cites permit No(s):		1.12. Date of de	parture		
	1.13. Means of transport:		1.14. Description of commodity:			
	☐ Aeroplane ☐ Ship		☐ Crocodilia☐ Crocodilia hatching eggs			
				1.15. Total number:		
	1.16. Identification of commodity: Species:					
	Species (Scientific Name)	Microchip number	Site of Microchip	Sex	Age	Other ID (e.g. ARKS number)

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 12 of 18

#### Zoo crocodilians

#### Country:

Certificate reference number:

I, the undersigned Official Veterinarian, authorised by the Competent Authority of the country of origin of the crocodilians, certify after due enquiry that the crocodilians described above satisfy the following requirements:

#### **Exporting zoo premises**

- (1) Each crocodilian has been hatched and reared in captivity, and originates from one or more of the approved countries listed in this import health standard.
- (2) The premises in which each crocodilian for export resided is under regular veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring programme was followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.

#### Pre-export isolation (PEI)

- (3) The crocodilians were:
  - (a) Held in PEI for a minimum period of 30 days prior to the date of shipment; and
  - (b) Isolated from other animals not of equivalent health status; and
  - (c) Free from clinical signs of infectious disease for the entire PEI period.
- (4) The PEI premises:
  - (a) Have been approved and supervised by an Official Veterinarian; and
  - (b) Showed no evidence of contamination with ticks, leeches and seeds. This includes feed and bedding.

#### Specified requirements for disease organisms

#### Edwardsiella tarda

 The crocodilian(s) originates from a captive population in which no isolation of Edwardsiella tarda has occurred.

#### Amblyomma.spp

(6) A thorough tick inspection was performed on the crocodilian(s) within 3 days prior to departure.

No ticks were detected.

Date of inspection:

#### Placobdelloides stellapapillosa

(7) A thorough inspection for leeches was performed on the crocodilian(s) within 3 days prior to departure. No leeches were detected.

Date of inspection:

#### Inspection and transport

- (8) If shipped by:
  - (a) Air, each crocodilian will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations;
  - (b) Sea, each crocodilian will be shipped in accordance with the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6.
- (9) No animals other than those that meet the import requirements for entry into New Zealand will be permitted to be transported with the crocodilians on the aircraft or ship.
- (10) During transport to the port of departure and during transit to New Zealand, all bedding provided will be free from evidence of contamination with ticks and seeds.
- (11) Only sterilised peat, soft board or other approved inert products will be used as bedding.
- (12) Each crocodilian was identified and examined by an Official Veterinarian in the 3 days prior to leaving the PEI premises for the port of departure.

# Part 2: Veterinary Information

<ul> <li>(13) Each crocodilian was free from clinical evidence of infectious disease, external parasites including leeches and ticks, plant and seed contamination, and appeared to be fit for travel.</li> <li>(14) The crates or pens to be used for transporting the crocodilian to New Zealand are either new or if previously used were cleaned and disinfected.</li> </ul>			
Note: Official stamp, signature and date must be applied to all pages and any documents that form part of the extended certificate.			
Official Veterinarian			
Name:	Signature:		
Address:	Date:		
Email:	Official Veterinarian signalu Official stamp and date		

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 14 of 18

	Country:	Certificate reference number:			
	I, the undersigned Official Veterinarian, authorised by the Competent Authority of the country of origin of the crocodilian hatching eggs, certify after due enquiry that the crocodilian hatching eggs described above satisfy the following requirements:				
	Exporting zoo premises				
	<ul> <li>All crocodilians from which the hatching eggs were derived have been hatched and reared in captivity and originate from one or more of the approved countries listed in this import health standard.</li> <li>The exporting premises were under regular veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring programme was followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.</li> </ul>				
	Inspection and transport				
	(3) The hatching eggs were inspected and visibly free of contamination at the time of export.  (4) If shipped by:  (a) Air, the hatching eggs will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations;  (b) Sea, the hatching eggs will be shipped in accordance with the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6.				
Part 2: Veterinary Information	<ul> <li>No animals other than those that meet the import requirements for entry into New Zealand will be permitted to be transported with the hatching eggs on the aircraft or ship.</li> <li>During transport to the port of departure and to New Zealand, all bedding provided will be free from evidence of contamination with ticks and seeds.</li> <li>Only sterilised peat, soft board or other approved inert products will be used as bedding.</li> <li>The hatching eggs were packed so as to prevent spillage and placed into new or clean and disinfected containers in the presence of an Official Veterinarian before dispatch.</li> <li>The containers were sealed by an Official Veterinarian using seals bearing the unique mark or identification number.</li> </ul>				
raitz. Vetermary m	Note: Official stamp, signature and date must be extended certificate.	e applied to all pages and any documents that form part of the			
	Official Veterinarian				
	Name:	Signature:			
	Address:	Date:			

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 15 of 18

# **Schedule 1 – Document History**

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode	
21 April 2008	Import Health Standard for Zoo Crocodilia from Australia Import Health Standard for Zoo Crocodilia Hatching Eggs from Australia	ZOOCRANIC.AUS ZOOCREGIC.AUS	
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode	
9 March 2020	Import Health Standard: Zoo Crocodilia and Zoo Crocodilia Hatching Eggs	ZOOCROCS.SPE	

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 16 of 18

# Schedule 2 – Definitions

#### **Competent Authority**

The Veterinary or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, that has the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Code* in the whole territory.

#### **Director-General**

The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

#### **EPA**

Environmental Protection Authority.

## **European Union**

European Union member countries.

#### IATA

The International Air Transport Association.

#### MPI

Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand.

#### Official Veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority 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* Chapter for certification procedures.

#### OIE

The World Organisation for Animal Health.

#### PFI

Pre-export isolation.

#### Surveillance

The systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of information related to animal health and the timely dissemination of information to those who need to know so that action can be taken.

# **Veterinary Certificate**

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the *Code* Chapter for certification procedures, describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

#### Zoo

A containment facility approved to the containment standard where live zoo animals are kept for the purposes of public exhibition, conservation, research or education.

Note: A zoo includes for example, a circus, butterfly house, aquarium or an oceanarium.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 17 of 18

# **Zoo Animal**

A new organism approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996 (HSNO) to be held in a zoo. The organism is both a new organism under the HSNO Act and a restricted organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Ministry for Primary Industries Page 18 of 18