

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF ZOO TARANTULA INTO NEW ZEALAND

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

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USER GUIDE

The information in Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) animal and 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, 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 E. APPENDICES contains the list of tarantula species deemed approval by ERMA as eligible for import into 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 into New Zealand of tarantula from zoos in all countries.
- 1.2 Approval for the importation of each consignment of tarantula into New Zealand is dependent on containment approval from the Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA) for that particular species of tarantula and the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

- 1.3 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 Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs to MAF for performing functions relating to the importation of tarantula shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or importer's agent.
- 2.3 The importer must make all arrangements for transport of the tarantula to and within New Zealand. If the planned route is not directly from the country of origin to the port of entry into New Zealand, the importer must obtain the necessary transit authorities from any third countries on the transport route. The vehicles and crates used for transport within New Zealand may be subject to inspection by the MAF Port Veterinarian who may seal the containers in which the tarantula are transported.
- 2.4 The importer must give the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the port of arrival, at least 7 days notice of the expected time of arrival and flight number (if arriving by air) or name of shipping vessel.
- 2.5 If a species of tarantula that is not held in a zoo within New Zealand is to be imported, the importer is responsible for obtaining approval from the Environmental Risk Management Authority before importation will be permitted.
- 2.6 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure that they are compliant with the current version of the relevant import health standard at the time of importation into New Zealand. Current versions of import health standards are available online at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/commercial-imports/import-health-standards/search>
- 2.7 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): <http://www.cites.org> . The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of origin of animal 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.

3 EQUIVALENCE

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

Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply completely with this import health standard. In such cases, an application for equivalence may be considered and may be issued at the discretion of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, but only if the following information is forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority:

- 3.1 Which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- 3.2 The reason the consignment is considered to be of an "equivalent health" status and/or what proposal is made to return the consignment to an equivalent health status as set out in this standard; and
- 3.3 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

Approved

When applicable to actions occurring in the country of origin approved means approved by the responsible veterinary authority of that countries government. In the case of New Zealand approved means approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Biosecurity Standards Group Manager

The Biosecurity Standards Group Manager, 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 Biosecurity Standards Group Manager

Equivalence

Acceptance by the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager 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

A person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

MAF

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 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 Section 1.2 of the *Terrestrial Code*

Terrestrial Code

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

PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 A permit to import is required for the importation of tarantula into New Zealand. Application must be made in writing, at least 30 days prior to the proposed date of importation. Applications should be made to: Animal Imports, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, P O Box 2526, Wellington Fax: 04 894 0662 Email: imports@maf.govt.nz
- 5.2 The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment. Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard which describes the conditions under which the tarantula may be imported into New Zealand.

6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by the permit to import and appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.

[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. Refer 2.7]



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 the consignment.

- 6.3 All documentation must be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).

7 ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION

- 7.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to tarantula of the species appearing in Appendix 1.
- 7.2 Only tarantula originating from a government registered/licensed zoo are eligible for import into New Zealand.

- 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 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

- 8.1 Date, expected time of arrival and the flight number or ship's name must be notified to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 7 days in advance of importation.
- 8.2 Containers made of timber must meet the requirements of the woodware import health standard (refer to <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/commercial-imports/import-health-standards/search>)
- 8.3 The tarantulas must be carried in approved containers which meet the IATA standards, and must be constructed in such a manner so as to prevent escape of any of the tarantulas or associated material.
- 8.4 During transport, the use of straw or hay is not permitted. Only sterile peat, soft board or other inert products are approved.

PART C: CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

10 BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

- 10.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand an Official Veterinarian/Inspector must inspect the containers containing the tarantulas [not to be opened] and the accompanying documentation.
- 10.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, an Inspector under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, may give a biosecurity direction authorising the tarantula to be moved to the transitional and containment facility named in the permit to import.
- 10.3 Any containers which are not intact on arrival must be made secure before consignment to the containment facility. Any material which has leaked from the container must be destroyed at the port of entry.
- 10.4 The containers containing the tarantulas are to be sealed with seals approved by the Ministry of Agriculture at the port of arrival.
- 10.5 Carriage of the tarantulas by the importer or agent to the containment facility shall be by the quickest practicable route and shall be approved by an Inspector or the supervising veterinarian.

11 CONTAINMENT FACILITY

- 11.1 The seals must be inspected by the supervising veterinarian before the containers are opened and the tarantulas placed in the containment facility under his/her supervision.
- 11.2 Anything which has had contact with the imported tarantula shall be sterilised or incinerated after use (This includes cages, bedding, pots, soil, packing materials, containers, etc.)
- 11.3 The tarantulas and any of their progeny (of any generation) must remain permanently contained in a registered zoo or containment facility approved to MAF Standard 154.03.04. (www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/animals/154-03-04.htm)
- 11.4 Tarantulas may not be transferred to another registered zoo containment facility without the prior permission of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.
- 11.5 An Inspector under the Biosecurity Act may at any time enter the premises where the tarantulas are housed, to inspect or carry out any testing, treatments or procedures as required by the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.
- 11.6 The tarantulas and their progeny may be disposed of, without compensation, if any conditions of this import health standard are not complied with. All costs will be borne by the importer.

PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

12 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

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

MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Commodity: TARANTULA

To: NEW ZEALAND

Import Permit Number:

Exporting Country:.....

I: IDENTIFICATION OF TARANTULA

Species Taxonomic Name:	Quantity:

Total number of tarantula:

II: ORIGIN OF TARANTULA

Name and address of exporter:

.....

Zoo of origin of tarantula:.....

Port of embarkation:

III: DESTINATION OF TARANTULA

Name and address of consignee:.....

.....

Flight number or ship name:

Port of arrival:

IV: SANITARY INFORMATION

I, the registered Veterinarian authorised to provide services to the zoo of origin, certify after due enquiry with respect to the tarantula identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

- 1.1 Each tarantula is a member of the species identified in Appendix 1 as eligible for import into New Zealand.
- 1.2 Each tarantula originates from a government registered or licensed zoo.
- 1.3 Each tarantula is free from evidence of infectious disease, external parasites, and is in good health and fit to travel.
- 1.4 The tarantulas are clean and free from obvious contamination with dirt, plant material and other organic matter

.....
Name and Signature of Registered Zoo Veterinarian

.....
Date:

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Government of the exporting country certify after due enquiry, with respect to the tarantula identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

- 1.5 The tarantulas have been placed in containers which meet the IATA standards, and are sealed to prevent escape of the tarantulas and any associated material.
- 1.6 The Veterinarian named above is registered in the country of origin and authorised to provide services to the zoo of origin.

.....
Name and Signature of Official Veterinarian

.....
Official stamp and date

Name and address of office:

Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages

PART E: APPENDIX 1

SPECIES OF TARANTULA ELIGIBLE FOR IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND:

TAXONOMIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<i>Aphonopelma moderatum</i>	Rio Grande Gold Tarantula
<i>Aphonopelma seemani</i>	Costa Rican Zebra Tarantula
<i>Avicularia urticans</i>	Peruvian Pink Toe Tarantula
<i>Brachypelma smithi</i>	Mexican Red Knee Tarantula
<i>Citharischius crawshayi</i>	King Baboon Tarantula
<i>Grammostola rosea</i>	Chilean Rose Hair Tarantula
<i>Grammostola pulchra</i>	Brazilian Black Tarantula
<i>Lasiodorides polycuspulatus</i>	Peruvian Blonde Tarantula
<i>Lasiodorides striatus</i>	Peruvian Striped Leg Tarantula
<i>Pamphobetus antinous</i>	Bolivian Blue Leg Tarantula
<i>Pamphobetus platytomma</i>	Brazilian Pink Tarantula
<i>Theraphosa blondi</i>	Goliath Bird Eating Tarantula

[ERMA Deemed Approvals # PRE001042 – 001053]