



# Bovine Embryos to Australia (OMAR)

BOVEMB.AU

Effective from 4 November 2019

## TITLE

Animal Products Notice: Bovine Embryos to Australia (OMAR)

## COMMENCEMENT

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 4 November 2019

## REVOCATION

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces:

- *BOVEMB.AU 22 June 2016 - Bovine Embryos to Australia*

## ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Animal Products Notice is issued under sections 167(1) and 60(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999.

Dated at Wellington, 4 November 2019

Vicki Melville  
Manager, Import and Export Animals  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

Contact for further information  
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)  
Agriculture and Investment Services  
Animal Trade (Exports)  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140

Email: [animalexports@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animalexports@mpi.govt.nz)

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## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Animal Products Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the zoosanitary requirements necessary to export compliant bovine embryos from New Zealand to Australia.

## Background

The Animal Products Act 1999 provides the controls and mechanisms needed to give and to safeguard official assurances or zoosanitary certificates to facilitate the entry of animal material including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, and products into overseas markets.

Notices issued as Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) under section 60(1)(a) and (b) of the Animal Products Act specify the requirements that are necessary or desirable for the purpose of facilitating access to overseas markets or are in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authority of the importing country.

OMARs may also determine the form and content of the official assurances that can be issued for animal material or product, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen or embryos, which meet the specified requirements.

Where the OMAR determines the form and content of the official assurances, a separate export certificate template is available to authorised persons, recognised persons and registered exporters who have applied for access to the certificate templates, to facilitate the completion and issuing of the relevant official assurance. That template will be an amendable version of the form set in the OMAR.

Notices issued under section 60(1)(c) of the Animal Products Act to safeguard the assurances provided by New Zealand, and guidance in the form of Codes of Practice, should be read in conjunction with this Notice.

This OMAR specifies the requirements that must be met by exporters of bovine embryos to be exported from New Zealand to Australia and determines the form and content of the official assurance that must accompany the bovine embryos to be exported. The OMAR was issued after consultation with industry and Australia. It is based on import requirements from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) printed on 11 October 2004, and subsequent communications from AQIS to update various new requirements as they have been introduced. The requirements are current according to the Australian Biosecurity Import Conditions website at the time of issue.

## Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

Exporters of bovine embryos to Australia.

Operators of Export Approved Premises collecting bovine embryos for export to Australia.

## Why is this important?

This Notice is important because it sets out the requirements that need to be met so that the Director-General of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) can certify that the bovine embryos meet the requirements for export to Australia which New Zealand, in consultation with the government of Australia, has determined will apply. It should be noted that although the bovine embryos may comply with these

requirements and be given an official assurance (by way of a certificate), the importing country ultimately retains control over what bovine embryos it clears for entry.

## Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
22 June 2016	Single clause added	Part VI, Clause 1, details regarding Schmallerberg virus
4 November 2019	All sections	New OMAR format

## Other information

### Export non-conformances

Exporters should note that, under section 51 of the Animal Products Act 1999, where they have exported animal material or products, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, that are refused entry by the foreign government they have a statutory duty to notify the Director-General of MPI not later than 24 hours after they have first knowledge of the event.

### Liability

Section 61A of the Animal Products Act 1999 states that:

The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market.

### Related documents

OMAR documents can be downloaded from <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/omars-overseas-market-access-requirements/omars-live-animals-semen-embryos-organics/>

When you click on the + symbol on the right-hand side of any OMAR document, you can view the related information and documents (guidance document and export certificate template).

The export certificate for this OMAR is provided for in *Bovine Embryos to Australia (Export Certificate)*. The export certificate is password-protected.

## Part 1: Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This Notice applies to the export of embryos derived from domestic cattle (*Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*) from New Zealand to Australia.

### 1.2 Definitions

- (1) In this Notice, unless the context otherwise requires:  
**Act** means the Animal Products Act 1999
- (2) A term used in this Notice that is defined in the Act or the following Notices (or their successors) has the meaning given to it in the Act or that Notice:
  - a) [Animal Products Notice: Official Assurances Specifications for Animal Material and Animal Products.](#)
  - b) [Animal Products Notice: Specifications for Laboratories.](#)

### 1.3 Requirements for export

- (1) Bovine embryos exported from New Zealand to Australia must be accompanied by an official assurance in the form of a zoosanitary certificate, a sample version of which is included in Part 2.
- (2) A zoosanitary certificate must be completed and issued by an authorised person.
- (3) In order to issue a zoosanitary certificate, the authorised person must be satisfied that:
  - a) A permit to import the bovine embryos has been issued by the competent authority of Australia.
  - b) The proposed shipment otherwise meets the requirements of this Notice

### 1.4 Laboratories

- (1) Where this Notice requires laboratory testing to be undertaken the testing must be done in laboratories operating in accordance with the Recognised Laboratory Programme (RLP) unless otherwise stated.

## Part 2: Zoosanitary Certificate



Certificate No: .....

### NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

#### ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Commodity: BOVINE EMBRYOS  
 To: AUSTRALIA  
 Exporting Country: NEW ZEALAND  
 Competent Authority: MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
 Import Permit Number: .....

(Use a schedule for more than one donor)

<b>I: SEMEN DONOR</b>	
Name	
Date(s) of semen collection	
Semen identification	

<b>II: EMBRYO DONOR</b>	
Name	
Breed	
Stud book / Registration No.	
Ear tag / Tattoo / Brand / Microchip No.*	
Date of entry into facility / resident herd	
Most recent TB test (date, type of test, result)	
<b>III: IDENTIFICATION OF THE EMBRYOS</b>	
Date(s) of embryo/ova flushes	
Straw identification <sup>(1)</sup>	
Number of embryos	
Number of straws	
Transport container(s) / shipper(s) identification	

\* Delete if not applicable

<sup>(1)</sup> Genetic material must be listed against the identity of the sealed transport container(s) / shipper(s).

Total number of embryos in this consignment: .....

**IV: ORIGIN OF THE EMBRYOS**

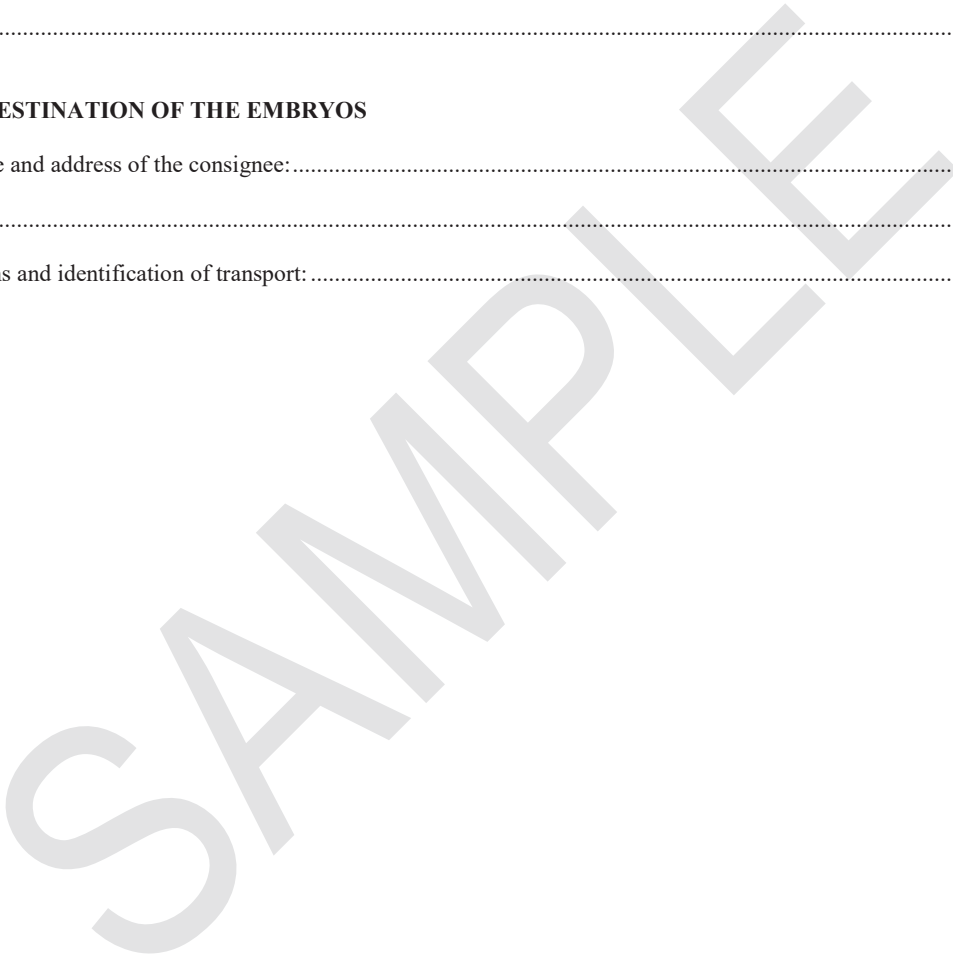
Name of premises where the embryos were originally collected:	Name, address and approval number of embryo team:
Name of approved team veterinarian:	Telephone:

Name and address of the exporter: .....  
.....

**V: DESTINATION OF THE EMBRYOS**

Name and address of the consignee: .....  
.....

Means and identification of transport: .....





Certificate No: .....

**VI: SANITARY INFORMATION****VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I, ....., an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, certify, after due enquiry in regard to the donor animals and embryos listed in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1. No cases of disease caused by Schmallenberg virus have been detected or reported in New Zealand.
2. The embryos for export were:
  - either 2.1 in-vivo derived;
  - or 2.2 in-vitro produced (IVP).
 (Delete as appropriate)
3. Embryos and/or ova were obtained from live donors of known identification.
4. The New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries has approved:
  - 4.1 the team veterinarian who supervised either the collection and processing of in-vivo derived embryos or the in-vitro embryo production team;
  - 4.2 the processing and storage facilities;
  - 4.3 in the case of IVP embryos, the processing laboratory responsible for the maturation, fertilisation and culture of the embryos for export.
5. The processing laboratory (including any mobile laboratory) was under the direct supervision of the team veterinarian, and was routinely inspected by an Official Veterinarian.
6. The donor females:
  - 6.1 were from herds that, at the time of collection, were officially free of bovine tuberculosis;
  - 6.2 were healthy and free from clinical evidence of infectious diseases transmissible by embryo transfer throughout the collection period;
  - 6.3 were tested negative to either an intra-dermal tuberculin test or a blood tuberculosis test during the twelve (12) months immediately prior to collection.
7. The embryos in this consignment were fertilised:
  - either 7.1 by a bull with the same health status as the female donor;
  - or 7.2 with semen collected at a semen centre approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries to export bovine semen to Australia;
  - or 7.3 with semen imported from a third country, which met the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industry's import conditions. The third country was recognised by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries as a country free from FMD without vaccination at the time of collection.
 (Delete as appropriate)
8. At the time of collection and processing, the embryo production team and processing laboratory complied with the relevant recommendations of the *OIE Code*.

- 9. The embryos were collected, processed and stored in accordance with the relevant recommendations of the *OIE Code*.
- 10. The laboratory has a quality assurance programme to ensure that where culture media and cells, and biological products of animal origin are being used, they are free from living pathogenic micro-organisms. All media were sterilised by methods recommended by the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) and handled in a manner to ensure that their sterility was maintained. Antibiotics were added to all fluids and media as recommended by IETS.
- 11. The embryos were washed with trypsin in accordance with the IETS recommendations.
- 12. All laboratory tests for animal pathogens were undertaken at laboratories approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries to undertake testing for export purposes.
- 13. The embryos for export to Australia were identified, and have been stored since the end of the collection period until export under the supervision of an Official Veterinarian in containers in which no biological material other than semen, embryos or ova of equivalent health status was held.
- 14. Where reproductive material was removed from containers for further processing or aggregation with other reproductive material at an approved centre or laboratory, the dates of transfer, reason for transfer, name of the approved centre or laboratory and the approved veterinarian must be listed against the **containers**.
- 15. The shipping container, which contains only new liquid nitrogen, was:
  - either 15.1 new;
  - or 15.2 prior to loading, the shipping container was emptied and inspected, and any loose straws removed. The shipping container, including all surfaces contacting the straws, was disinfected using:
    - Name of active ingredient: .....
    - Date of disinfection: .....

(DAWR accepts the following disinfectants: 2% available chlorine; 2% Virkon; irradiation at 50kGy).  
 (Delete as appropriate)

- 16. Prior to export, the shipping container was sealed by an Official Veterinarian, using a seal(s) that bears the following marks:  
 .....

.....  
 Signature of the Official Veterinarian Official Stamp and Date  
 Ministry for Primary Industries

.....  
 Name and Address

**NB: The Official Veterinarian must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate using a different colour ink to the paper and the print, and, where applicable, sign, date and stamp each page of the documents (e.g. laboratory reports) that form part of the extended health certification.**