



# Import Health Standard

## Fresh *Citrus* spp. for Human Consumption

MPI.IHS.FP.CITRUS

Draft for  
Consultation

## **TITLE**

Import Health Standard: Fresh Citrus spp. for Human Consumption

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Import Health Standard comes into force on date of signing.

## **REVOCATION**

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following:

- Import Health Standard Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables citrus, Citrus spp. from Arab Republic of Egypt, issued 17 March 2006.

## **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

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

Dated at Wellington this ... day of .....

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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## Introduction

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

## Purpose

An IHS specifies the requirements for importing risk goods into New Zealand from all countries.

## Background

An IHS issued under the New Zealand Biosecurity Act (the Act) specifies the requirements to be met to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with importing goods, including the risks from incidentally imported organisms. IHSs include measures that must be applied in the exporting country before the goods are exported. IHSs also include requirements that must be met by importers during importation including while the goods are in transit and held in a transitional facility, before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Post-clearance conditions may also be specified in an IHS.

Guidance accompanies an IHS as either a separate document or as guidance boxes throughout the IHS itself. Guidance provides information on how the requirements may be met.

## Who should read this?

Anyone who is involved in the process of importing risk goods into New Zealand or who has an interest in importing risk goods into New Zealand should read and be familiar with the relevant IHS.

## Why is this important?

It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that risk goods comply with the requirements of the relevant IHS. Risk goods that do not comply with the requirements of an IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and may be directed for treatment, re-shipment, destruction or further action deemed appropriate by a Chief Technical Officer (CTO). The pathway may be suspended if certain types of viable regulated pests or viable unwanted organisms are intercepted on the consignment.

Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

## Equivalence

A CTO may consider an application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure to be approved, different from that provided for in this IHS, to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the current measures.

Equivalence will be considered with reference to the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 24. *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures*.

## Document history

Refer to Appendix 2 for the Amendment Record for this IHS.

## Part 1: General Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This Import Health Standard (IHS) applies to fresh *Citrus aurantiifolia* (lime), *C. limon* (lemon), *C. paradisi* (grapefruit), *C. sinensis* (orange), *C. reticulata* (mandarin/ tangerine), *C. paradisi x reticulata* (tangelo), and *C. maxima* (pomelo) [*Citrus* spp.] imported for human consumption ('fresh *Citrus* spp.').
- (2) Fresh *Citrus* spp. is defined as commercially produced *Citrus* fruit which may include calyx and a small amount of stem but does not include leaves or larger twigs and shoots.

#### Guidance

- Frozen, cooked, pickled, pureed or dried *Citrus* spp. may be imported but are covered by MPI IHS BNZ.NPP.HUMAN: Importation into New Zealand of stored plant products intended for human consumption.

### 1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) The following documents are incorporated by reference under section 142M of the Act:
  - **ISPM 5.** *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 7.** *Phytosanitary certification system*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 12.** *Phytosanitary certificates* Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 23.** *Guidelines for inspection*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 26.** *Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 28.** *Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
  - **ISPM 31.** *Methodologies for sampling of consignments*. Rome, IPPC, FAO.
- (2) 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 any material incorporated by reference has legal effect as part of those documents.

### 1.3 Definitions

- (1) Definitions are listed in Appendix 1.

### 1.4 General

- (1) Importers may only import fresh *Citrus* spp. from a country where:
  - a) the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) has provided evidence to the satisfaction of a Chief Technical Officer (CTO) that the exporting country has an *Exporting Country System* that complies with ISPM 7. *Phytosanitary certification system*. The *Exporting Country System* (including programmes and standards) must demonstrate the process used to provide export assurance.
  - b) an *Export Plan* that details the activities and processes established to achieve the *MPI-Specified Measures* identified in Part 2 of this IHS has been approved by the CTO.

#### Guidance

- Countries that meet the requirements in Part 1.4 (1) a) and Part 1.4 (1) b) for *Citrus* spp. are listed in ePest ([www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/requirements/epest](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/requirements/epest)).

- MPI intends to remove regulated pest lists from IHS's and include them in the new ePest database which will be available on the MPI website. Transitioning to this database is ongoing

- (2) Importers may not import from a country where a CTO has:
  - a) determined that the *Exporting Country System* no longer meets the requirements of ISPM 7; or
  - b) has revoked approval of the *Export Plan*.
- (3) The scientific name of fresh *Citrus* spp. (*Citrus aurantiifolia*, *C. limon*, *C. paradisi*, *C. sinensis*, *C. reticulata*, *C. paradisi x reticulata*, or *C. maxima*) must be included in documentation (specified in Part 3) accompanying the consignment.
- (4) In order to obtain biosecurity clearance all consignments of fresh *Citrus* spp. into New Zealand must:
  - a) be free of soil and extraneous material, including flowers and leaves of the plant;
  - b) be free from viable regulated, including viable weed seeds;
  - c) be packaged in clean and either new or refurbished material;
  - d) be shipped in a secure manner to prevent contamination by regulated pests and other unwanted organisms;
  - e) meet the specific requirements in Part 2; and
  - f) be accompanied by documentation that meets the requirements of Part 3.
- (5) Fresh *Citrus* spp. must not be used for any purpose, such as propagation or animal feed, other than described in Part 1.1(1).

#### Guidance

- A list of pests associated with fresh *Citrus* spp. can be found in [ePest](http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/requirements/epest) (<http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/requirements/epest>).
- The full list of regulated and non-regulated pests and other unwanted organisms for New Zealand can be found in the [Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities \(BORIC\)](http://mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/resources/registers-and-lists/biosecurity-organisms-register-for-imported-commodities/) (<http://mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/resources/registers-and-lists/biosecurity-organisms-register-for-imported-commodities/>).
  - BORIC is a Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) database which informs of the quarantine status for an organism as either regulated or non-regulated for New Zealand.
- The [Schedule of regulated \(quarantine\) weed seeds](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/7111) can be found on the MPI website (<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/7111>).
- If, during an official inspection, the NPPO detects a pest that is not listed in [ePest](#) or [BORIC](#), Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) should be contacted to establish the regulatory status of the pest.
- Further information can be found in MPI [Guidance Document: Fresh Produce for Consumption](http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/13831) (<http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/13831>).

## 1.5 Permit to import

- (1) A permit to import is not required unless specified in Part 3: *Inspection, Verification and Documentation Requirements*.

## Part 2: Specific Requirements

### 2.1 Basic Measures

- (1) Fresh *Citrus* spp. must be sourced from a production site that uses standard cultivation methods for commercial export-quality product; including pest-control, harvesting, sorting, cleaning, inspection and packaging.

### 2.2 MPI-Specified Measures

- (1) The pests that require *MPI-specified measures* are:
- *Bactrocera zonata*
  - *Ceratitis capitata*
- (2) At least one of the following measures must be applied in relation to fresh *Citrus* spp. to manage the pest listed in 2.2(1):
- a) Country Freedom: a CTO is satisfied that a country has country freedom status in relation to the pest. No additional measures for that pest are required.
  - b) Pest Free Area: *Citrus* spp. is sourced from a pest free area established in accordance with ISPM 26. *Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies* (Tephritidae).
  - c) Cold disinfestation treatment: *Citrus* spp. is treated by cold disinfestation treatment prior to arrival in New Zealand (including in-transit) as specified in section 2.2.1.
- (3) The *Export Plan* must record the agreed procedures used for the application of these measures.

#### 2.2.1 Cold Disinfestation Treatment

- (1) Fresh Citrus spp. must be treated with a cold disinfestation treatment in accordance with the *Export Plan* and Tables 1 and 2 as applicable.

**a) *Bactrocera zonata***

**Table 1: Cold Disinfestation Treatment for *Citrus* spp.**

Maximum fruit pulp temperature (°C)	Minimum exposure period (consecutive days)
1.67	18

**b) *Ceratitis capitata***

**Table 2: Cold Disinfestation Treatment options for *Citrus* spp.**

<i>Citrus</i> species	Maximum fruit pulp temperature (°C)	Minimum exposure period (consecutive days)	Reference
<i>C. aurantiifolia</i>	0	13	MPI approved rates
	1	16	
<i>C. limon</i>	2	16	ISPM 28 PT 26: <i>Cold treatment for Ceratitis capitata on Citrus limon</i>
	3	18	
<i>C. sinensis</i>	2	16	

<b>Citrus species</b>	<b>Maximum fruit pulp temperature (°C)</b>	<b>Minimum exposure period (consecutive days)</b>	<b>Reference</b>
	3	20	ISPM 28 PT 24: <i>Cold treatment for Ceratitis capitata on Citrus sinensis</i>
<i>C. reticulata</i>	2	23	ISPM 28 PT 28: <i>Cold treatment for Ceratitis capitata on Citrus reticulata</i>
<i>C. paradisi</i>	2	19	ISPM 28 PT 27: <i>Cold treatment for Ceratitis capitata on Citrus reticulata</i>
	3	23	
<i>C. paradisi x reticulata</i>	2	23	ISPM 28 PT 28: <i>Cold treatment for Ceratitis capitata on Citrus reticulata</i>
<i>C. maxima</i>	0	10	MPI approved rates
	0.55	11	
	1.11	12	
	1.66	14	
	2.22	16	

**Guidance**

- To establish that the commodity is sourced from a pest free area, the phytosanitary measures and officially approved procedures used for the establishment and maintenance of a pest free area should be documented in accordance with ISPM 26. MPI will review this information before accepting that this measure can be used.
- Cold treatment can be initiated offshore and completed in-transit on-route to New Zealand.



## Part 3: Inspection, Verification and Documentation Requirements

### 3.1 Phytosanitary inspection

- (1) The NPPO of the exporting country must:
  - a) sample each homogeneous grower lot of fresh *Citrus* spp. The minimum sample size for inspection must be based on a 95% confidence level that not more than 0.5% of the units in the lot are infested, as set out in Appendix 2 of ISPM 31. *Methodologies for sampling of consignments*;
  - b) visually inspect each sample unit according to official procedures in accordance with ISPM 23. *Guidelines for inspection* for all pests and unwanted organisms regulated by New Zealand.
  - c) verify that the *Basic Measures* and *MPI-Specified Measures* have been applied as outlined in Part 2;
  - d) reconcile that the number of packages presented for inspection is consistent with documentation;
  - e) verify that traceability labelling is complete; and
  - f) verify that phytosanitary security is maintained for the consignment.

#### Guidance

- A sample unit for the purpose of this IHS is considered to be a single *Citrus* fruit from one species.

### 3.2 Phytosanitary certification

- (1) Each consignment must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the NPPO in accordance with ISPM 12. *Phytosanitary certificates* and meeting the specified requirements set out in this Part.
- (2) The phytosanitary certificate must include:
  - a) sufficient detail to enable identification of the consignment and its component parts. Information must include country/place of origin;
  - b) full details of any end point treatments applied to fresh *Citrus* spp. in the “Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment” area of the phytosanitary certificate or as an NPPO-endorsed attachment to the phytosanitary certificate. All details of the treatment must be recorded including for example, minimum irradiation dose, duration and temperature, chemical (active ingredient) and concentration;
  - c) the following declaration:  
*“This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.”*
- (3) When the consignment is treated in-transit, the certificate must state “Treated in-transit” in the “Disinfestation and /or Disinfection Treatment” area of the phytosanitary certificate.
- (4) If a consignment of fresh *Citrus* spp. is stored in another country in transit to New Zealand or opened, split up or has its packaging changed prior to when it arrives in New Zealand, a phytosanitary certificate for re-export is required from the transiting country, in accordance with ISPM 12, and must accompany each consignment.

**Guidance**

- A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if viable regulated pests and viable unwanted organisms are detected, unless an appropriate phytosanitary measure has been applied.

### 3.3 Additional declarations

- (1) The phytosanitary certificate must also include the following additional declaration when *MPI-Specified Measures* (Parts 2.2) are required:
  - a) “This consignment was produced and prepared for export in accordance with the agreed *Export Plan*.”
- (2) Unless Part 2.2(2)(a) applies, the following additional declaration must also be included on the phytosanitary certificate for each *MPI-Specified Measure* (Part 2.2) used and the specified pest/s:
  - a) “*The consignment was [select applicable] {produced and packed in a pest free area; subjected to cold disinfestation treatment for {Name of Pest/s}}.*”

**Guidance**

- This additional declaration should be repeated for each measure and pest combination.
- Recognised pest free areas are listed in ePest (<http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/requirements/epest>) and recorded in the *Export Plan*.

## Appendix 1: Definitions

Definitions have the same meaning as defined by the Act or ISPM 5. *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*, unless set out below:

### **FAO**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

### **ISPM**

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. The list of ISPMs are available from:  
<https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/ispm/>.

### **NPPO**

National Plant Protection Organisation.

### **Pest**

Definition as per ISPM 5.

### **Viable**

In relation to a pest or unwanted organism, means capable of reproduction and/or development.

## Appendix 2: Amendment Record

The following table provides a summary of the last amendment to the IHS for fresh *Citrus* spp. for Human Consumption.

Section(s)	Details	Date