



# Import Health Standard

## Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants

Provisional

ELESEMEN.SPE

[Document Date]

## TITLE

Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants

## COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on [Effective Date]

## REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following:

- a) *Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants, ELESEMEN.SPE, 22 March 2017*

## ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington this    day of

Howard Pharo  
Manager, Import and Export Animals  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(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

This IHS specifies the minimum requirements that must be met when importing semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) into New Zealand from Australia and the European Union (EU).

## 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 during importation, 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 applies to importers of semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from Australia and the EU.

## 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 being determined. Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of zoo Asian elephant semen 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.

## 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 [animalimports@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animalimports@mpi.govt.nz).

## Biosecurity clearance

Restricted organisms will not be given biosecurity clearance. On authorisation from the inspector, they may be moved from quarantine but must remain in the zoo containment facility.

## 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.

### 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) <http://www.cites.org>. See the Department of Conservation for further details <http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/role/international/endangered-species/>.

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.

### 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: <http://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/classifications-and-standards/classification-related-stats-standards/harmonised-system-2012.aspx>.

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

HS Code	Commodity Description
0511.99.00.08	Animal products; semen, other than bovine, other than sheep semen

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## Part 1: Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This IHS applies to all imports of fresh, chilled or frozen semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) for import from Australia and the EU into New Zealand.

### 1.2 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 the following website: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>.
- (2) See Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

### 1.3 Requirements for movement to containment

- (1) In order to obtain authorisation into a zoo containment facility, elephant semen must:
  - a) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.4 – 1.5 in Part 1; and
  - b) Be accompanied by a veterinary certificate that meets the requirements of clause 1.7.2; and
  - c) Be accompanied by an import permit as required by clause 1.6.

### 1.4 Semen donor requirements

- (1) Semen must be from donors that are resident in an Australian or EU zoo or wildlife park that is registered by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.

### 1.5 Semen collection, processing, storage and transport

- (1) Semen must be collected at an Australian or EU zoo or wildlife park under permanent veterinary supervision, and where a health monitoring programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.
- (2) Personnel collecting and processing semen must be trained in, and practice, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.
- (3) The registered veterinarian supervising the collection must ensure that all equipment and working surfaces likely to come into contact with semen for export have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
- (4) Semen must be in straws, ampoules or a sealed container.
- (5) All straws, ampoules or containers must be marked with identification of the donor animal/s and the date of collection.
- (6) All products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in the collection, processing and storage of the semen must be sterile preparations or be screened for adventitious viruses with negative results.
- (7) Any cryogenic or cooling agent used in the freezing process, storage, and transport must not have been used previously in association with any other product of animal origin.
- (8) The collection and transport containers must be new or disinfected, and free of contamination.
- (9) Semen must be stored in a secure area prior to export.

- (10) The transport container in which semen is transported to New Zealand must be sealed, by either the registered veterinarian supervising the collection or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals. The seal number must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

**Guidance**

- Following biosecurity authorisation being given under section 25 of the Act, the semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) must proceed directly to the containment facility named on the import permit.
- The documentation will be checked to ensure it meets all requirements noted under Part 1.

## 1.6 Import permit

- (1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required prior to the importation of consignments of elephant semen from Australia and the EU.

## 1.7 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the documentation that is specified in, and meets the requirements of, clauses 1.7.1 to 1.7.2 below.
- (2) All documentation that is required by this clause 1.7 to accompany elephant semen must, unless otherwise stated:
- 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.

### 1.7.1 Import permit

- (1) An import permit (copy acceptable) is required for each consignment.

**Guidance**

- Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at: [Semen Permit Application](#).
- The importer should complete all information requested on the application form.
- Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports [animalimports@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animalimports@mpi.govt.nz).
- The import permit will direct the elephant semen to the approved zoo containment facility in New Zealand that MPI has approved to receive the elephant semen.

### 1.7.2 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) Identification of Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) semen donor(s), date(s) of collection, and identification of semen.
  - c) Name, phone number 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 requirements outlined in Part 1 of this IHS have been met.



Guidance

- A model veterinary certificate is located in Part 2 of this document.


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## Part 2: Model Veterinary Certificates

Guidance: Model veterinary certificate for semen from zoo Asian elephants

- Below is a model veterinary certificate for trade in semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*). The model meets the requirements of the IHS.

Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Phone: Address:	1.2. Certificate reference number:															
		1.3. Competent Authority:															
	1.4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Phone: Address:																
	1.5. Country of origin:	ISO Code															
	1.6. Country of destination:	ISO Code															
	1.7. Place of origin: Name: Address:																
	1.8. Place of shipment:	1.09. Date of departure:															
	1.12. Means of transport: <input type="checkbox"/> Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Identification:	1.10. Expected border post:															
	1.11. CITES permit No(s):																
1.12. Description of commodity:	1.13. Commodity Code (ISO Code):																
	1.14. Total number of :																
1.15. Temperature of commodities for transport:	1.16. Total number of packages:																
1.17. Identification of container/serial number:	1.18. Type of packaging:																
1.19. Identification of commodity: Semen from Asian Elephants ( <i>Elephas maximus</i> )																	
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Donor identification</th> <th>Date of collection</th> <th>Semen identification</th> <th>Number of straws</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Donor identification	Date of collection	Semen identification	Number of straws												
Donor identification	Date of collection	Semen identification	Number of straws														

	<b>Country:</b>	Certificate reference number:
Part 2: Veterinary Information	<p>I,..... an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of [country], certify after due enquiry, with respect to the elephant semen identified in this veterinary certificate, that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The donor elephants are resident in a Competent Authority-registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park.</li> <li>(2) The registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park in which the donor elephants have been resident is under permanent veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.</li> <li>(3) I have no reason to doubt the attestation provided by .....the [country] registered veterinarian overseeing the collection, processing and transport of elephant semen, whose signature appears below.</li> </ol> <p>I,....., the [country] registered veterinarian, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the semen identified in this veterinary certificate that:</p> <p><b>Semen collection, processing, storage and transport</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Personnel who collected and processed the semen have been trained in, and practised, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.</li> <li>(2) All equipment and working surfaces involved in the semen collection were appropriately cleaned and disinfected.</li> <li>(3) All semen straws, ampoules or containers were identified with the donor animal/s and the date of collection.</li> <li>(4) All products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in collection, processing and storage of the semen were sterile preparations or were screened for adventitious viruses with negative results.</li> <li>(5) Any cryogenic or cooling agent used in the freezing process, storage, and transport have not been used previously in association with any other product of animal origin.</li> <li>(6) The collection and transport containers are new or disinfected and free of contamination.</li> <li>(7) Semen was stored in a secure area prior to export.</li> <li>(8) The transport container in which the semen is transported to New Zealand was sealed by the registered veterinarian supervising the collection or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals. Seal number _____</li> </ol>	
	<p><b>Registered Veterinarian overseeing Semen Collection:</b></p> <p>Name</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>Signature:</p>	<p><b>Official Veterinarian:</b></p> <p>Name</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  <p>Official Veterinarian signature</p> </div>

## Schedule 1: Document History

This document history is provided for information only and is not part of the legal requirements.

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
22 March 2017	Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants	ELESEMEN.SPE
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode
TBA	Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants	ELESEMEN.SPE

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## 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.

### Donor(s)

Male animal(s) from which semen was collected.

### Germplasm

Ova, semen or embryos collected from animals that are eligible for importation under this import health standard.

### 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.

### Registered Veterinarian

A veterinarian suitably qualified and registered to practise veterinary medicine in the exporting country.

### The *Code*

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code as found on the OIE website.

### 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.