

Proposed Animal Products Notice: Dairy Processing Specifications

Purpose of the Review:

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is proposing to consolidate several Notices and processing specifications into one Notice. This is to make information easier to find and understand. Currently there can be confusion between what is a requirement and what is guidance. Also users of dairy legislation have reported being unsure if they have located all the relevant information.

This consolidation is not intended to change the current requirements. Changes have only been made to add clarity to existing requirements, or to update/remove out of date information.

Background:

Stakeholders have previously informed MPI that dairy legislation is difficult to find and can be hard to understand. Suggestions for improvement included making clear what is guidance and what is a requirement, along with making sure all relevant information was available in one place. In addition, following the Food Safety Law Reform Act 2018, a review of all relevant regulations and notices is required to ensure legislation is at the appropriate level. This consolidation of Notices into one Dairy Processing Specification will also assist this process.

MPI propose a consolidated notice. This notice is intended to reflect the current requirements and add clarity where required. Guidance material has been removed from the proposed notice. Corrections have been made where necessary, along with deletion of duplication and updating outdated references, for example.

The following existing documents have been consolidated into one Notice:

- a) Animal Products (Dairy Processing Specifications) Notice 2011;
- b) Animal Products (Export Requirements Dairy Products) Notice 2005
- c) Animal Products (Raw Milk Products Specifications) Notice 2009
- d) Animal Products (Exemptions from Labelling Standards for Dairy Product and Dairy Material Intended for Export) Notice 2006
- e) DPC1: Animal Products (Dairy) Approved Criteria for General Dairy Processing
- f) DPC2: Animal Products (Dairy) Approved Criteria for Farm Dairies
- g) DPC3: Animal Products (Dairy) Approved Criteria for the Manufacturing of Dairy Material and Product; and
- h) DPC4: Animal Products (Dairy) Approved Criteria for the Storage and Transportation of Dairy Material and Products

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Summary of changes

A spreadsheet has been provided to assist stakeholders locate information in the source documents and align it with clauses in the proposed consolidated Notice.

Some areas where most updates have been made are:

- Sampling and testing
- Water quality
- Traceability

How to have your say

You may comment directly on any sections of this discussion document or any provisions in the proposed notice. Submissions can be made using the accompanying template for comment on the proposed Animal Products Notice: Dairy Processing Specifications.

Where possible, comment should be specific to a particular section in the document. All major sections are numbered and these numbers should be used to link comments to the document. The use of examples to illustrate particular points is encouraged.

MPI encourages submitters to make their submissions electronically so please email your submissions to: animal.products@mpi.govt.nz by **5pm Friday 25 January 2019.** We encourage you to use the submission template provided. This will also help us analyse submissions.

If you wish to convey your submissions in writing, these should be posted to the following address:

Dairy Processing Specifications Animal & Animal Products Ministry for Primary Industries PO Box 2526 Wellington 6140

Please note that your submission is public information. Submissions may be the subject of requests for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA specifies that information is to be made available to requesters unless there are sufficient grounds for withholding it, as set out in the OIA. Submitters may wish to indicate grounds for withholding specific information contained in their submission, such as the information is commercially sensitive or they wish personal information to be withheld. Any decision to withhold information requested under the OIA is reviewable by the Ombudsman.

What happens next

All submissions will be considered after consultation has closed. A summary of submissions and analysis will be sent to all submitters and posted on the MPI website in due course.