



Ref: CTO 2013 007

Live Animals

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of live animals and germplasm imported using a country-specific Import Health Standard (IHS) which has been replaced by a specified-country or all-country ("generic") IHS pending new veterinary certificate negotiation

Pursuant to section 27 (1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Marnie Thomas, Animal Imports Team Manager, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give direction for live animals and germplasm imported under country-specific import health standards to be given clearance in accordance with the most recent generic IHS:

- When a live animal or germplasm veterinary certificate from a country-specific IHS has been used, specific risk organism mitigation measures may be substituted with those in the most recent IHS (which is pending veterinary certificate negotiation with the approved country of export).

For example, horses imported from Hong Kong under the currently approved veterinary certificate (HORANIIC.HK 1 October 2007), can substitute relevant clauses from the IHS for Horses (HORANIIC.GEN 1 February 2013).

- Where specific measures have been eliminated from the most recent IHS, clearance may be given when those specific measures in the country-specific IHS have not been met.

For example the new Import Health Standard for Horses (HORANIIC.GEN 1 February 2013) no longer requires measures for Getah virus from any country. Therefore veterinary certification without the freedom claim clause 1.2 for Getah is acceptable.

The most recent IHS includes the most recent scientific justification for measures to mitigate the risk associated with the specified risk organism. Due to the length of time required for veterinary certificate negotiation, this will allow ongoing trade using the current certificate with substitution or elimination of specific measures as indicated by the new IHS.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.