



Ref: CTO 2013 014

Bovine germplasm

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of germplasm which has tested negative for bluetongue using the agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test.**

Pursuant to section 27 (1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Angela Snell, Senior Adviser Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give direction for bovine germplasm imported with a negative AGID test for bluetongue to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the import health standard (bovsemid.gen):

The IHS specifies that the bluetongue test must be an OIE prescribed test, such as the cELISA. The AGID is an OIE “alternative” test, rather than a “prescribed” test. The AGID is a sensitive test (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7653026>), but it lacks specificity (inability to differentiate between bluetongue and EHD). It’s lack of specificity does not increase the risk associated with importation.

Bovine germplasm must meet all other conditions of the import health standard, including the required time interval for testing for bluetongue.

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

Signed at Wellington this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Angela Snell'.

Angela Snell  
Senior Adviser Animal Imports  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(Acting under delegated authority)