

Summary of Verification Frequencies for Animal Product and Food Businesses – 2018

This document provides a summary of the current verification frequencies used in the Animal Products Act and Food Act. For further details check the relevant legislation and guides.

APA Initial verification frequencies and ceilings – domestic

Animal product business	Domestic	
	Highest Initial Frequency	Ceiling Frequency
Primary processors of mammals and birds for human consumption	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
Secondary processors of mammals and birds for human consumption	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Primary and secondary processors of seafood for human and animal consumption, including fishing vessels	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
All other processors of animal product for human consumption	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Stores (cool or dry)	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Primary processors of mammals and birds for animal consumption ¹	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
Secondary processors of mammals and birds for animal consumption	Step 7 Annual	Step 7 Annual
All other processors ¹ of animal product for animal consumption	Step 7 Annual	Step 7 Annual
All other businesses that have a risk management programme but not covered by the above animal product business descriptions	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Killed wild mammal material depots	Step 4 2 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Fish (other than bivalve molluscan shellfish) material depots, and apiarists	Step 8 5 yearly	Step 8 5 yearly
Bee processors requiring risk management programmes	Step 7 Annual	Step 7 Annual
Providers of ante mortem and post mortem examination of mammals	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual

Refer: Verification Statement of Policy

<https://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/elibrary/industry/verification-statement-policy-2005/>

¹ This includes processors that are 'further (pet food) processors', as defined in the Animal Products (Specifications for Products Intended for Animal Consumption) Notice 2006, who sell animal material / animal product by wholesale or undertake processes other than size reduction and/or packing.

APA - Initial and ceiling export verification steps for premises that do not have fulltime recognised agency supervision

Animal product business	Initial verification step	Ceiling step
Primary processors of mammals and birds for human consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
Secondary processors of mammals and birds for human consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
Primary and secondary processors of seafood for human and animal consumption, including fishing vessels	Step 2 Monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
Farm dairy RMP and raw milk transport	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Transport operators who operate under a registered risk management programme and have depots with refrigerated compartments	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
All other transport operators who operate under a registered risk management programme (including operators of depots and export loading facilities)	Step 6 6 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Transport operators who are registered under the Transport RCS and operate depots with refrigerated compartments	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
All other transport operators who are registered under the Transport RCS (including operators of depots without refrigerated compartments and export loading facilities) ²	Step 6 6 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Processors of dairy product and dairy material for human consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
All other processors of animal product for human consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
Export stores	Step 2 Monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
Primary processors of mammals and birds for animal consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
All other processors of animal product for animal consumption	Step 2 Monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
All other businesses that have a risk management programme but not covered by the above animal product business descriptions	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
Killed wild mammal material depots	Step 4 2 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly
Fish (other than bivalve molluscan shellfish) material depots, and apiarists	Step 8 5 yearly	Step 8 5 yearly
Bee product processors requiring risk management programmes	Step 5 3 monthly	Step 6 6 monthly

² Where an operator has more than one ELF, each facility must be verified at each verification visit

Businesses (excluding stores) processing blood, blood products, reproductive materials and pharmaceutical products requiring official assurances though not required to have a risk management programme	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly
Businesses (including stores) processing animal material such as hides and skins, or for fertilizer and similar products, that require official assurances though not required to have a risk management programme	Step 2 Monthly	Step 7 Annual
Germplasm businesses	Step 6 6 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Poultry hatcheries	Step 6 6 monthly	Step 7 Annual
Providers (if other than the risk management programme holder) of ante-mortem and post-mortem examination of mammals or birds	Step 2 Monthly	Step 5 3 monthly

Note – Certain slaughter plants have full-time veterinary supervision – when required by overseas markets.

Export fishing vessel verification is based on port visits

Refer: Export Verification Notice - <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/11428/loggedIn>

Food Act – Verification Frequencies

Risk-based measure	Initial Verification (new businesses)	Ceiling
Food Control Plan - Custom	3 months	Step 5 18 months
Food Control Plan - Template	6 weeks	Step 5 18 months
National Programme 3	6 weeks	Step 6 2 years
National Programme 2	6 weeks	Step 7 3 years
National Programme 1	6 weeks	Step 8 No further verification

Note: there is a different initial frequency for existing businesses moving to the Food Act.

Refer: Food Regulations 2015 – Part 3

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/food-safety/food-act-2014/information-for-regulators-and-verifiers/working-as-a-verifier/>

- [Verification frequency guidance](#) [PDF, 290 KB]