



Ref: CTO 2017 063 [G]

Zoo: Meerkat Post Arrival Quarantine and Internal Parasites

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of zoo meerkats.

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for zoo meerkats to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable *Import Health Standard for the Importation of Slender-Tailed Meerkat (Suricata suricatta) into New Zealand (zoomeeic.all)*:

Clause 10 of the Import Health Standard requires that on arrival the animals remain in the Transitional Facility for no less than 30 days, or for a longer period if required.

Equivalence is granted for the meerkats to remain in the Transitional Facility for 10 days only is based on the following:

- the animals destined for export have spent 30 days in Pre-Export Isolation off-shore.
- ectoparasite risk has been mitigated by clause 4.6 and 4.7 of the Veterinary Certificate A
- an additional inspection for ectoparasites on arrival is required.

Clause 4.5 of the Veterinary Certificate requires that:

The animal was subjected to two faecal examinations, at least 14 days apart, using a floatation concentration method (able to detect 1 egg/3g of faeces) with negative results. (Based on that of: Egwang TG, Slocombe JOD. Evaluation of the Cornwell-Wisconsin centrifugal flotation technique for recovering trichostrongylid eggs from bovine faeces. Canadian Journal of Comparative Medicine 46, 133-7, 1982.)

This CTO direction will allow that clause 4.5 is not required as the risk of internal parasites is covered by clause 4.2 of the Veterinary Certificate. This is consistent with other Import Health Standards.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

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