



Ref: CTO 2017 070 [G]

Aquaculture Feed: Dried Insects for Feeding Aquaculture Fish

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to dried insect for feeding aquaculture fish

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 direction for clearance of consignments of dried insect for feeding aquaculture fish in relation to the *Import Health Standard for Fish Food and Fish Bait from All Countries* (FISFOOIC.ALL; 2 December 2011).

The above Import Health Standard requires imported aquaculture feed to be accompanied by an original zoosanitary certificate that is compliant with the model certificate in Part D of the IHS. Importers intending to feed dried insects to farmed fish are not able to provide a compliant zoosanitary certificate as the product is not formulated as aquaculture feed. Further, feeding dried insects to farmed fish would not be compliant with the requirements in Clause 7.2.1 of the above Import Health Standard because the clause is meant for products intended for feeding to ornamental fish.

Technical advice received from the Biosecurity Risk Team indicate that insects raised in farms and processed as animal feed animals pose negligible biosecurity risks. Given this, dried, farm-raised insects may be considered for importation through permit assessment. The assessment includes determination of equivalence with Part D of the IHS, which means the requirement to provide a zoosanitary certificate may be waived. The assessment also includes determination of equivalence with Clause 7.2.1 of the IHS, which means dried insects can be fed to farmed fish despite not being labelled as fish food.

The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risks associated with dried insects will be assessed and managed effectively.

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