Ref: CTO 2018 031 [G]
Bee Products: Medicated Plasters or Bandages

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to medicated plasters or bandages containing honey.

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 medical plasters or bandages containing honey in relation to the *Import Health Standard:* Specified Processed Bee Products (BEEPROIC.ALL dated 13 November 2006).

Clause 7.4.4 and 'Replaces Clause 7.4.4ii' (CTO direction 2015 095 in the grey box at the front of the import health standard) specify the following:

i. The product must be commercially prepared
ii. The product must be accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration specifying that the product contains no more than 50 percent liquid honey and that the bee product ingredient has undergone radiation treatment at a rate of at least 15 kGy. This includes products such as toothpaste, cosmetics and medical preparations that are topically applied. Products for human consumption such as cough syrup and throat lozenges may not be irradiated.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is that the medicated plasters or bandages will contain greater than 50% honey.

As part of the standard production process for these medicated plasters or bandages, they are irradiated at a dose of at least 15 kGy prior to importation to New Zealand. The Import Risk Analysis (IRA, December 2004) and Supplementary IRA (May 2016) *Honey Bee Products* concluded that gamma irradiation at a dose of 10-15 kGy effectively manages the risk organisms associated with honey bee products (e.g. European foulbrood, American foulbrood and insects/mites).

The percentage of honey is not important in managing risk.

The consignment must be accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration stating that the honey in the plasters and bandages have been irradiated at a dose of at least 15kGy. The manufacturer's declaration must be linked to the batch number of the product to be imported.

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

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

Regulation and Assurance
Animal Health and Welfare Directorate
TSB, 147 Lambton Quay, PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Telephone: 0800 00 83 33, Facsimile: +64-4-894 0300
www.mpi.govt.nz