

LEGAL

A CTO may give direction, under section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993, that measures, different from those set out in the IHS, may be applied to effectively manage the risks set out in the IHS. The MPI Inspector may then give biosecurity clearance to the goods in accordance with section 27(1)(d).

DECISION

That a permit to import may be issued that describes equivalent phytosanitary requirements for imported teas that contain Citrus ingredients. The permit to import will specify that steam treatment can occur prior to export or on arrival. The minimum steam treatment requirements are for the citrus ingredients to be exposed to a temperature of 120°C for at least one minute. Certification of the steam treatment is to be recorded either on a manufacturer's declaration, treatment certificate or a phytosanitary certificate. This can be considered as being equivalent to the requirements under the import health standard BNZ-NPP-HUMAN, which effectively manages the risks identified in the IHS.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that you accept the proposal described below.

1. That a permit to import is issued to specify that steam treatment can occur prior to export or on arrival in New Zealand. The minimum steam treatment requirements are for the citrus ingredients to be exposed to a temperature of 120°C for a period of at least one minute. Certification of the treatment is to be recorded either on a manufacturer's declaration, treatment certificate or a phytosanitary certificate. This can be considered as equivalent to the requirements under the import health standard BNZ-NPP-HUMAN, which effectively manages the risks identified in the IHS.

AGREE / DISAGREE

2. The CTO approved equivalent measures will be identified in the Special Conditions section of the permit to import in the following manner:

EQUIVALENCE (MPI reference number: CTO – 20130002)

Equivalence is granted to import loose herbal teas containing citrus ingredients for human consumption under equivalent phytosanitary measures. The goods imported under this permit to import must be exposed to steam with a minimum temperature of 120°C for a period of at least one minute and be intended for human consumption. These measures are considered as equivalent to the requirement under section 9.4 of the import health standard BNZ-NPP-HUMAN.

AGREE / DISAGREE

Manager, acting pursuant to delegated Chief Technical Officer Authority

Date: 18/9/13