



**Ref: CTO 2019 029 [G]**

Pig Semen: PRRS Test Timing in Pre-entry Isolation

**CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) test timing in pre-entry isolation**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Trade (Imports), Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for pig semen in relation to the *Import Health Standard (IHS): Pig Semen* (PIGSEMEN.GEN, dated 18 December 2017).

Clause 26 (iii) of the veterinary certificate states:

Donors were kept in pre-entry isolation for at least 30 days and tested on two occasions with a multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies that uses both European and American strain antigens, the first occasion on the day of entry into the pre-entry isolation facility and the second occasion no less than 21 days after entry and within 15 days prior to movement to the semen collection centre, both tests with negative results; and

The second PRRS ELISA test was not done '*within 15 days prior to movement into the semen collection centre*'. This import condition is present in the model veterinary, but not the IHS PIGSEMEN.GEN, the World Organisation (OIE) for Animal Health *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Code*) or the country-specific IHS (revoked). This condition was added in response to a submission from the New Zealand pig industry.

Thus, animals that have met the conditions in pre-entry isolation as specified in clause 26 (iii), excepting for '*within 15 days prior to movement into semen collection centre*', meet the requirements in the IHS. The New Zealand pig industry are aware of the situation.

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.