

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR SHELF-STABLE PETFOODS CONTAINING ANIMAL PRODUCTS**

**Issued pursuant to Section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993**

**Dated:**

## **USER GUIDE**

The information in Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) animal and animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MPI import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections which outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether an import permit is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment, if necessary.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel and accompany the consignment to New Zealand where specified in the import health standard.

## **PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD**

- 1.1 Pursuant to section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act), this document is the Import Health Standard for Shelf-Stable Petfoods Containing Animal Products.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of shelf-stable petfoods containing animal products imported into New Zealand is dependant upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director-General.

### **2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.1 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure that they are compliant with the current version of the relevant import health standard at the time of importation into New Zealand. Current versions of import health standards are available online at:

<https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/ih-import-health-standards/>

- 2.2 Petfoods and petfood ingredients imported under this import health standard must be intended for consumption by terrestrial animal species that are kept in households, laboratories and zoos as pets or specimens, such as aviary birds, cats, dogs, lagomorphs, mustelids, reptiles and rodents.
- 2.3 Products intended to be fed to production animal species including poultry, ostriches, emus, cattle, sheep, deer, goats, pigs, horses etc. **must not** be imported under this import health standard.
- 2.4 This import health standard relates only to petfoods containing animal products (note, the product may also include non-viable plant products or mineral products). Petfoods that do not contain any animal or plant ingredients, and only comprise of inanimate ingredients, such as minerals, are not subject to any biosecurity requirements.
- 2.5 This import health standard specifically excludes petfood derived from animal products that need to be refrigerated prior to opening. Please refer to MPI's website: <https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/ih-import-health-standards/> to obtain import requirements for petfoods requiring refrigeration prior to opening.
- 2.6 Shelf-stable petfoods may be imported from the European Community using this import health standard provided they do not contain bovine ingredients other than milk. If the products include bovine material then they can be imported under the [\*Import Health Standard for the Importation into New Zealand of Processed Petfood Containing Category 3 Material Only from the European Community\*](#).
- 2.7 The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of shelf-stable petfoods containing animal products shall be recovered in accordance with the Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.8 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.
- 2.9 All petfood products sold on the domestic New Zealand market must comply with any legal requirements notified by the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997. Petfood products that are manufactured for the purpose of being fed by mouth with the intention of providing nutritional benefit to the animal, are considered Oral Nutritional Compounds (ONC) under this Act and supporting Regulations. Importers are advised to consult the website: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/processing/pet-food-inedibles-animal-feed-and-supplements/requirements-for-pet-food-animal-feeds-and-supplements/> to check the requirements for selling petfood in New Zealand.

### 3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

#### **Animal product**

A product that includes a material derived from any part or secretion of a vertebrate or an invertebrate member of the animal kingdom.

**Biosecurity clearance**

A clearance under section 26 of the Act for the entry of goods into New Zealand.

**Dairy product**

Any product manufactured from the milk and cream of animals.

**Fo3**

Fo3 is a processing standard that specifies that the core temperature of the product has reached 121°C for 3 minutes. (Refer to Schedule 1 for time-temperature combinations equivalent to Fo3).

**Inspector**

Means a person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Act.

**Manufacturer's declaration**

A document that has been prepared by the manufacturer on the manufacturing company's letterhead paper and:

- a) Signed by the manufacturer's quality manager or equivalent.
- b) Dated within the last 12 months prior to the arrival of the consignment in New Zealand.
- c) Containing the statements required by this import health standard, the product name(s) relevant to the consignment and the details of the importer (consignee).

**MPI**

The New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

**Meat**

Skeletal muscle of vertebrate animal species (e.g. avian, amphibian, fish, mammalian, and reptilian) with naturally included or adherent tissue or bone. This definition excludes animal by-products.

**Meat product**

A product containing meat as an ingredient (such as meat patties, meat pies, salami or sausage), or meat that has been treated so that the cut surface of the meat no longer has the characteristics of fresh meat.

**Official certificate**

A certificate issued by the exporting country's Official Veterinarian containing the following information:

- a) A unique consignment identifier.
- b) The description and amount of product.
- c) Name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor).
- d) Name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian.
- e) Certification by the Official Veterinarian that the requirements of this import health standard have been met.

**Official Veterinarian**

A veterinarian of an exporting country's Veterinary Authority who is authorised according to official procedures to sign international veterinary certificates.

**Retorted**

Means heated in an unopened hermetically sealed container for a time, and to a temperature, by superheated steam under pressure, sufficient to render the contents commercially sterile, for example, traditional canning processes.

**Shelf-stable**

Not requiring refrigeration or freezing.

**Veterinary Authority**

Means the governmental Veterinary Service that has authority for implementing, supervising and auditing the animal health measures and international veterinary certification processes recommended by the OIE (World Animal Health Organisation).

**4 EQUIVALENCE**

- 4.1 It is expected that the product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the product does not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to MPI for consideration prior to importation explaining the the reason(s) why the consignment may be considered of equivalent health status to a consignment complying with this import health standard, and what proposal is made to achieve an equivalent health status. Applications may be sent to:

Animal Imports Team, Ministry for Primary Industries, PO Box 2526, Wellington 6140, or email: [animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz)

**PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE****5 IMPORT PERMIT**

- 5.1 An import permit must be obtained for shelf-stable petfoods containing more than 2% of honey, pollen or royal jelly from the Animal Imports Team, Ministry for Primary Industries, PO Box 2526, Wellington 6140, New Zealand, or email [animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz).
- 5.2 An import permit is not required for other petfood consignments that meet the requirements of this import health standard.

**6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

- 6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed documentation where specified in section 7 of this import health standard.
- 6.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country and English).

- 6.3 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity clearance or rejection of consignments.

## 7 ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1 **Canned/retorted petfoods containing beef/other bovine meat products/by-products and other animal products** from *Australia, Israel, Japan, or the United States of America* may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product is shelf-stable
- ii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- iv. The country of origin is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- v. The product is:

- EITHER a. subject to inspection on arrival to verify that the goods are in metal cans, retort pouches or other equivalent receptacles and that they do not require refrigeration to maintain quality
- OR b. accompanied by documentary evidence that the product has been subject to a retort process (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).

- 7.2 **Canned/retorted petfoods containing beef/other bovine meat products/by-products and other animal products** from *Canada or Switzerland* may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product is shelf-stable
- ii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- iv. The country of origin (Canada or Switzerland) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- v. The product is:

- EITHER a. subject to inspection on arrival to verify that the goods are in metal cans, retort pouches or other equivalent receptacles and that they do not require refrigeration to maintain quality

- OR
  - b. accompanied by documentary evidence that the product has been subject to a retort process (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).
- vi. The product must be accompanied by certification that meets Part D. Zoosanitary Certification.

### **7.3 Canned/retorted petfoods containing animal products from any country.**

**7.3.1 Canned/retorted petfoods containing animal products NOT of bovine or porcine origin** may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product is shelf-stable
- ii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- iv. The product is:
  - EITHER
    - a. subject to inspection on arrival to verify that the product does not contain bovine or porcine materials and is in metal cans, retort pouches or other equivalent receptacles and that they do not require refrigeration to maintain quality
  - OR
    - b. accompanied by documentary evidence that the product does not contain bovine or porcine materials and has been subject to a retort process (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).

**7.3.2 Canned/retorted petfoods containing pork/pork products/by-products and other animal products NOT of bovine origin** may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product is shelf-stable
- ii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- iv. The product is:
  - EITHER
    - a. subject to inspection on arrival to verify that the product does not contain bovine material
  - OR
    - b. accompanied by documentary evidence that the product does not contain bovine material (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).

- v. The product is accompanied by an official certificate stating that the product has been subjected to a retort process of Fo3 or greater (refer to Schedule 1 for time and temperatures to achieve Fo3).

7.4 **Dehydrated complete diets, dehydrated pet supplements, pet biscuits and pelleted petfoods containing beef /other bovine meat products/by-products and other animal products** from *Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America* may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product has been cooked by baking, or cooked during the process of extrusion
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The country of origin (Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- vi. The product is accompanied by documentary evidence that the product has been cooked (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).

7.5 **Dehydrated complete diets, dehydrated pet supplements, pet biscuits and pelleted petfoods containing beef/other bovine meat products/by-products and other animal products** from *Canada or Switzerland* may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product has been cooked by baking, or cooked during the process of extrusion
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The country of origin (Canada or Switzerland) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- vi. The product is accompanied by documentary evidence that the product has been cooked (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).
- vii. The product is accompanied by certification that meets Part D. Zoosanitary Certification.

7.6 **Dehydrated complete diets, dehydrated pet supplements, pet biscuits and pelleted petfoods containing animal products from any country.**

7.6.1 **Dehydrated complete diets, dehydrated pet supplements, pet biscuits and pelleted petfoods containing animal products NOT of bovine or porcine origin** may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product has been cooked by baking, or cooked during the process of extrusion
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The product is accompanied by documentary evidence that the product does not contain bovine or porcine materials and has been cooked (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).

7.6.2 **Dehydrated complete diets, dehydrated pet supplements, pet biscuits and pelleted petfoods containing pork/pork products/by-products and other animal products NOT of bovine origin** may be given biosecurity clearance provided all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product is shelf-stable
- ii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- iv. The product is:  

EITHER	a.	subject to inspection on arrival to verify that the product does not contain bovine material
OR	b.	accompanied by documentary evidence that the product does not contain bovine material (a product description or manufacturer's declaration).
- v. The product is accompanied by an official certificate stating that the product has been cooked by the process of baking to a minimum core temperature of 70°C for at least 30 minutes, or by the process of extrusion.

7.7 **Dried dog and cat chews containing animal products:**

7.7.1 **Beef jerky chews** from *Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than bovine meat products
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The country of origin (Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- iv. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- v. The product is within its original sealed packaging on arrival

7.7.2 **Beef jerky chews** from *Canada or Switzerland* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than bovine meat products
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The country of origin (Canada or Switzerland ) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- vi. The product is accompanied by certification that meets Part D. Zoosanitary Certification.

7.7.3 **Mammalian rawhide and mammalian ligamentum nuchae chews** from *Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than the skin, hide or ligamentum nuchae of a mammal (i.e. not avian products)
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The country of origin (Australia, Israel, Japan or the United States of America) is clearly identifiable on the packaging.

7.7.4 **Mammalian rawhide chews and mammalian ligamentum nuchae chews** from *Canada or Switzerland* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than the skin, hide or ligamentum nuchae of a mammal (i.e. not avian products)

- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The country of origin (Canada or Switzerland ) is clearly identifiable on the packaging
- vi. The product is accompanied by certification that meets Part D. Zoosanitary Certification.

7.7.5 **Mammalian rawhide chews** from *any country* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all of the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than the skin, hide or ligamentum nuchae of a mammal (i.e. not avian products)
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
- v. The product must be accompanied by an official certificate stating that the product has been soaked in a lime solution of pH 14 for at least 8 hours.

7.8 **Dried sardines** from *any country* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than fish
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival.

7.9 **Products containing dairy ingredients** from *any country* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all the following requirements are met:

- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than dairy ingredients
- ii. The product is shelf-stable
- iii. The product is commercially prepared, packaged, and labelled as petfood
- iv. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival

- 7.10 **Petfoods containing any honey, pollen or royal jelly** from *any country* may be given biosecurity clearance provided that all the following requirements are met:
- i. The product does not contain any animal products other than honey, pollen or royal jelly ingredients
  - ii. The product is commercially prepared and packaged
  - iii. The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival
  - iv. The product is accompanied by
    - EITHER (a) a manufacturer’s declaration certifying that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly
    - OR (b) an import permit.

- 7.11 **Petfoods containing any honey, pollen or royal jelly** in addition to other animal product ingredients specified in other clauses in this import health standard need to comply with all the requirements in the relevant clause, and be accompanied by
- EITHER (a) a manufacturer’s declaration certifying that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly
  - OR (b) an import permit.

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

### **8 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE AND DIRECTION**

- 8.1 An inspector may inspect consignments upon arrival in New Zealand to check that they meet the conditions of eligibility stated in section 7 of this import health standard.
- 8.2 Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of eligibility, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Act, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Act.

## **PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

- 9.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MPI to accompany imports of consignments of shelf-stable petfoods containing bovine material into New Zealand from Canada and Switzerland.

### **9.2 MODEL VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

**Name of Animal Product:**.....

**Exporting Country:**.....

**Competent Ministry of Exporting Country:**.....

**I. Identification of Product:**

Number of packages: .....

Nature of packaging: .....

Nature of the goods: .....

Species product derived from: .....

Net weight in kilograms (kg):.....

Number of the container(s) and container seal number(s): .....

Production date(s):.....

**II. Origin of Product:**

Name and official approval number(s) of establishment(s): .....

.....

**III. Consignment Information:**

Place of loading: .....

Name and address of consignor:.....

Name and address of consignee: .....

**Port of Disembarkation:** .....

**Country of Final Destination:** NEW ZEALAND

**IV. Health Attestation:**

I hereby certify with respect to the shelf-stable petfoods herein described:

The products do not contain any specified risk materials (SRMs).

Cattle of all ages: Tonsils and distal ileum.

Cattle aged 30 months or older: Brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column

Done at: ..... on:.....

## Schedule 1 – Fo3 Time and Temperature

Equivalent time and temperature parameters to 121°C for 3 minutes (Fo3) require the product has been processed to/greater than one of the following minimum core temperature and time parameters:

110°C for 40 minutes

111°C for 32 minutes

112°C for 25 minutes

113°C for 20 minutes

114°C for 16 minutes

115°C for 13 minutes

116°C for 11 minutes

117°C for 9 minutes

118°C for 7 minutes

119°C for 6 minutes

120°C for 5 minutes

**121°C for 3 minutes (Fo3)**

122°C for 3 minutes

123°C for 3 minutes

124°C for 3 minutes

125°C for 2 minutes

126°C for 1 minute

127°C for 46 seconds

128°C for 37 seconds

129°C for 29 seconds

130°C for 23 seconds

131°C for 18 seconds

132°C for 15 seconds

133°C for 12 seconds

134°C for 9 seconds

135°C for 7 seconds

136°C for 6 seconds