

# INFORMATION SHEET

## ***EXPORT CONDITIONS FOR RABBITS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA\****

\*except Hawaii

New Zealand is classed as a "rabies free" country by the United States Department of Agriculture and there are no restrictions on the importation of rabbits from this country providing that on arrival "the owner makes a declaration that they have been in New Zealand for 6 months" or since birth.

However, if the animals are **not** accompanied by their owner a statutory declaration attesting to the fact that they have been in New Zealand for 6 months or since birth should accompany the animals. The exporter should arrange for such a declaration to be made in front of a solicitor.

Notwithstanding the fact that no veterinary certificates are required for rabbits being exported to the United States\*, most airlines will not accept animals for shipment to this country unless they are accompanied by a veterinary certificate of health stating that the animal is fit to travel . Such certificates must be written on headed veterinary practice note paper.

Veterinary surgeons signing any certificate must ensure that their name and qualifications are typed or printed beneath their signatures.

\*Please note, an Animal Welfare Export Certificate (AWEC) is issued to all animals leaving New Zealand at the point of exit.