Overseas Market Access Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999 - Standards Branch, Animal and Animal Products Directorate, Ministry for Primary Industries

Ref: AE-ZA-05
Date: 18 May 2012

OMAR B BOVEMBEC.SAF 18.05.12 – BOVINE EMBRYOS (*IN VIVO*) to the REPUBLIC of SOUTH AFRICA

1. Statutory authority

Pursuant to section 60 of the Animal Products Act 1999:

(i) I notify the following overseas market access requirements, entitled bovine embryos (*in vivo)* to The Republic of South Africa.

This notice takes effect from date of signing.

Dated at Wellington this 28th day of June 2012.

Signed: Howard Pharo BVSc, MScTAD, MPP, MANZCVSc
Manager Import and Export Animals
Animal and Animal Products Directorate
Standards Branch
(pursuant to delegated authority)

2. The Republic of South Africa requirements

Bovine embryos (*in vivo*) exported from New Zealand to The Republic of South Africa must comply with the import regulations of The Republic of South Africa listed in this notice as follows:

2.1 An Import Permit is required for the exportation of bovine embryos (*in vivo*) from New Zealand to The Republic of South Africa.

2.2 An Official Veterinarian of New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry must certify, after due enquiry, the following:

2.2.1 New Zealand is free from brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*), foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious pleuropneumonia, bluetongue, Rift Valley fever, vesicular stomatitis, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and bovine ephemeral fever.

Vaccination against these diseases is prohibited.

2.2.2 The team veterinarian supervising the collection of the embryos for export is approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the collection procedures followed by the team were in accordance with the recommendations of the current IETS Manual.

2.2.3 Prior to entering the embryo collection facility, the donor cows were tested with negative results for bovine tuberculosis using:

Either 2.2.3.1 an intradermal tuberculin test using both avian and mammalian tuberculin within three (3) months of the date of entering the centre

Or 2.2.3.2 the animals originate from a herd officially free of tuberculosis

(To be deleted as applicable)

2.2.4 Prior to entering the embryo collection facility, the donor cows were testing for bovine viral diarrhoea using:

2.2.4.1 a virus isolation test using an immunofluorescent or immunoperoxidase method, with a negative result; **and**

2.2.4.2 paired ELISA or paired virus neutralisation tests from samples collected a minimum of twenty-one (21) days apart, and tested side by side, with a maximum of a two (2) fold rise in titre.

2.2.5 Prior to the donor cows entering the embryo collection facility, or the donor bulls entering the semen centre, there had been no clinical, microbiological or pathological evidence of Johne's disease in the herds of origin during the previous three (3) years.

2.2.6 On the day of collection the donor cows were healthy and clinically free from diseases known to be transmitted via semen or embryos.

2.2.7 The embryos were conceived by *in-vivo* fertilisation by semen from a MAF-approved semen centre. The donor bull(s) had been continuously resident at a semen centre for a period of at least one (1) month prior to collection of the semen and during that time the bull(s) had not been used for natural mating. The semen centre was under the control and supervision of a veterinarian approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2.2.8 The embryos were:

2.2.8.1 examined at least 50X magnification and the entire surface of the zona pellucida was found to be intact and free of adherent material

2.2.8.2 not manipulated in any manner

2.2.8.3 washed, including trypsin treatment, processed, put into straws, frozen and the straws were identified according to the guidelines recommended in the current IETS Manual

2.2.8.4 not washed with embryos of other donors

2.2.8.5 shipped in cleaned and disinfected containers, filled with unused cryogenic material.

2.2.9 Laboratory testing was performed at a laboratory approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to undertake testing for export purposes.

2.2.10 The container used for the transport of the bovine embryos to the Republic of South Africa was sealed by an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Seal number to be recorded on the export certificate.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 and used, but not defined in this document, has the same meaning as in this Act.

Explanatory note

These overseas market access requirements are based on the export certificate for bovine embryos (in vivo) to the Republic of South Africa, dated 18 May 2012.

Additional Information for OMAR Notification: BOVEMBEC.SAF 18.05.12

1. This is a new OMAR based on the new export certificate, dated 18 May 2012. It was approved by Dr Sumari Potgieter, State Veterinarian, Import Export Policy Unit, Directorate Animal Health, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of South Africa, on 20 June 2012.

2. This OMAR is for bovine *in vivo* embryos only.

3. The import requirements of South Africa do not permit the use of semen imported from a third country for the fertilization of bovine embryos.

4. Clause 2.2.4.2: tested side by side, with a maximum of a two (2) fold rise in titre means that the samples may be collected at different times, but the tests should be done at the same time. The aim is to determine that there has been no significant change in antibody titre, given that some donors may have a stable but positive antibody titre from previous exposure.

Section 61.A of the Animal Products Amendments Act 2005 states that 'The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market'.