



Ref: CTO 2014 111 [B]

Fish: Palolo Worm for Human Consumption (Private Consignments)

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of private consignments of palolo worm for human consumption

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following direction for private consignments of palolo worm for human consumption to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable *Import Health Standard for Marine Fisheries Products for Human Consumption from all Countries (FISMARIC.ALL; 6 October 2008)*:

Clause 6: Eligibility: Private consignments (not exceeding 10 kg per passenger) of palolo worm (*Palola viridis*) in any form and from any country may be given clearance if intended for human consumption. No documentation is required.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is that palolo worm is not included as one of the categories of aquatic species eligible for importation into New Zealand.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and will be effectively managed. Advice received from the Biosecurity Science, Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate is that the biosecurity risks are likely to be negligible given that:

- this species appears to require sub-tropical/tropical waters;
- environmental exposure would most likely occur via household grey-water effluent;
- limited volumes will be imported, which will not result in industrial-scale discharges;
- the product would be used for human consumption only and not disposed of directly to the marine environment.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.