

Import Health Standard
Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables

Onions (*Allium cepa* L.),
from the People's Republic of China

ISSUED

Issuance: XX XXXX 2013

Issuance

This import health standard for fresh onions for consumption from the People's Republic of China has been issued pursuant to section 24A of the Biosecurity Act (1993).

Signature of Group Manager, Plant Imports & Exports Group
Acting pursuant to delegated Director-General authority

Date: XX XXXX 2013

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD: FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES

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Part A. Background

Scope

This document describes the requirements to be met to enable biosecurity clearance to be given for fresh onions (*Allium cepa* L.) for human consumption imported into New Zealand from the People's Republic of China.

Commodity description

The commodity description "onions" for human consumption is defined as commercially produced cured onion bulbs in their skin, of any size, with minimal root material still attached and the pseudostem removed to within 1-1.5cm from the bulb.

Definitions

The definitions of relevant phytosanitary terms used in this standard are consistent with the terms stated in the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (2007) produced by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), unless the context otherwise requires or the definition is stated below.

Additional declaration pests - means regulated pests that require specific pre-export phytosanitary measures that are attested to using an additional declaration on the export phytosanitary certificate.

Import health standard (IHS) - a document issued pursuant to section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 on behalf of the Director General, permitting entry to New Zealand of a specific product under certain conditions.

Inspection pests – means regulated pests on the IHS pest list, for which the commodity is requiring freedom from at phytosanitary inspection that are attested to by issuance of the export phytosanitary certificate.

MPI - the Ministry for Primary Industries which is responsible for regulatory biosecurity functions.

Unit - one onion bulb.

Regulated pest - those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected.

Outcome

The agreed pre-export phytosanitary measures for additional declaration pests have been undertaken and the onions are free of other regulated pests. The specified regulated pests listed in [Part E](#) require specific phytosanitary measures. Visual inspection is required for all regulated pests.

At a 95% confidence level, not more than 0.5% of the units in the consignment are infested (this equates to an acceptance level of zero units infested by regulated organisms in a sample size of 600 units).

Verification activities associated with this performance measure are found in [Appendix 1](#).

Equivalence

Under section 27 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, measures, different from those in this IHS may be applied to manage risk arising from non-compliance.

MPI may consider a pre-export application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the measures in this IHS.

Equivalence is determined in accordance with ISPM No.24: *Guidance for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

Part B. General phytosanitary import requirements for all fresh fruit/vegetables for consumption

The import health standard 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand* contains the phytosanitary requirements that must be met for all fresh fruit and vegetable commodities that are allowed to be imported into New Zealand. IHS 152-02 outlines transit requirements, verification activities on arrival in New Zealand and actions undertaken upon pest and disease interceptions

The IHS 152.02 can be found at the MPI website

(<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/ihs/152-02.pdf>).

Part C. Additional requirements for onions from the People's Republic of China

Phytosanitary measures

MPI requires the People's Republic of China National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) to undertake pest control activities that are effective against additional declaration pests prior to the commodity arriving in New Zealand, and phytosanitary certification will need to attest to this accordingly.

The additional declaration pests are:

- *Delia antiqua*
- *Delia floralis*
- *Pantoea ananatis*
- *Puccinia asparagi*

Inspection of the consignment

Once the phytosanitary measures have been undertaken for the pests specified in the regulated pest list ([Part E](#)), the People's Republic of China NPPO is required to sample and visually inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all the regulated pests to ensure it conforms with New Zealand's current import requirements.

A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if live regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the consignment is effectively treated. If organisms are found which are not listed in the IHS, the People's Republic of China NPPO must establish their regulatory status by consulting the MPI "Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities" (BORIC), online at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/pests/registers/boric>.

If an organism is found during export inspection by the People's Republic of China NPPO that is not listed in BORIC, the People's Republic of China NPPO must contact MPI to establish the regulatory status of the organism.

Part D. Phytosanitary certification

Activities required for phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the People's Republic of China NPPO must accompany all onion consignments exported to New Zealand in accordance with ISPM No. 7: *Phytosanitary certification system* (2011). The phytosanitary certificate must be in English and must be an original. Bilingual certificates are acceptable as long as English is one of the languages. The phytosanitary certificate also requires the following certification statement as aligned to ISPM No. 12: *Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates* (2011).

“This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.”

Before a phytosanitary certificate is issued, the People's Republic of China NPPO must be satisfied that the following activities required by MPI have been undertaken.

The onions in this consignment have:

- (i) been visually inspected according to appropriate official procedures and found free from the regulated pests specified by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (NZ MPI).

AND

- (ii) undergone pest control activities that are effective against:
 - Delia antiqua*
 - Delia floralis*
 - Pantoea ananatis*
 - Puccinia asparagi*

Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate

If satisfied that the pre-export phytosanitary measures have been undertaken effectively, the People's Republic of China NPPO must confirm this by providing the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate:

The onions in this consignment have:

- (i) been visually inspected according to appropriate official procedures and found free from all regulated pests specified by the New Zealand Ministry

for Primary Industries

NOTE: This additional declaration is not required if the phytosanitary certificate issued by the People's Republic of China NPPO is in accordance with the ISPM 12 model phytosanitary certificate.

AND

- (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against *Delia antiqua*, *Delia floralis*, *Pantoea ananatis* and *Puccinia asparagi* in accordance with the Official Assurance Programme

NOTE: "appropriate pest control activities" is a broad term that is inclusive of a range of phytosanitary measures. Examples of these measures include sourcing of high health material, in-field pest controls and post-harvest processing.

Part E. Regulated pest list for onions from the People's Republic of China

Scientific name	Organism type	Common name	Actions on interception
<i>Erwinia chrysanthemi</i> pv. <i>chrysanthemi</i>	Bacteria	lettuce marginal leaf blight	2
<i>Pantoea ananatis</i>	Bacteria	fruitlet rot of pineapple	2a
<i>Alternaria palandui</i>	Fungi	leaf spot	2
<i>Cladosporium oxysporum</i>	Fungi	seedling blight of passion fruit	2
<i>Davidiella allii-cepae</i>	Fungi	black mould	2
<i>Penicillium oxalicum</i>	Fungi	blue mould	2
<i>Phytophthora capsici</i>	Fungi	soft rot	2
<i>Puccinia asparagi</i>	Fungi	asparagus rust	2a
<i>Atherigona orientalis</i>	Insect	pepper fruit fly	2
<i>Bradysia odoriphaga</i>	Insect	Chinese chive maggot	2
<i>Delia antiqua</i>	Insect	onion fly	2a
<i>Delia floralis</i>	Insect	turnip maggot	2a
<i>Meloidogyne graminicola</i>	Nematode	rice root-knot nematode	2
<i>Rotylenchulus reniformis</i>	Nematode	reniform nematode	2

Actions on interception

- NA No actions as pest is non regulated
- 0 No action due to low risk pathway
- 1 Removal of trash – pests are associated with other plant parts (e.g., leaves, stems, flowers)
- 2 Treat, reship or destroy
- 2a Treat, reship or destroy. Suspend pathway
- 3 Reship or destroy. Suspend pathway

NOTE: The suspension of the pathway could be at the packhouse, production area, province or country level depending on the significance of the pest and the interception.

Appendix 1: Verification activities on arrival in New Zealand

MPI will inspect documentation on arrival in New Zealand. In addition, MPI may inspect a sample from each lot on arrival in New Zealand to verify requirements of the IHS have been met.

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