



Ref: CTO 2015 021 [G]

Zoo: Meerkats External Parasites

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of zoo meerkats.

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 directions for zoo meerkats to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard for the importation of slender-tailed meerkat (*Suricata suricatta*) into New Zealand (zoomeic.all):

Clause 4.6 of the veterinary certificate requires that within 72 hours of shipment the animal was treated with an insecticide dip or spray capable of killing ticks, lice and fleas.

This CTO direction allows that the ectoparasite treatment may be given by other routes of administrations including injections and oral medication.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively. In addition to treatment the animals must also be subjected to a thorough veterinary inspection within the 48 hours prior to departure.

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