Ref: CTO 2014 014[1]

Lab Animal Feed: Uncooked Dehydrated Diets

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of uncooked dehydrated diets for lab animals

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 uncooked dehydrated laboratory animal feed to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the Import Health Standard for Shelf-stable Petfoods Containing Animal Products (PETFODIC.ALL;1 May 2007):

Consignment

- This CTO direction applies to consignments imported under MPI's Permit to Import Number 2014052532 only;
- This CTO direction must not be applied to other import permits.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable health standard is the lab animal diets do not comply with Clause 7.5(i) or 7.6(i): they have not been prepared by the process of baking or by extrusion. In addition, the diet "Modified AIN-93M Rodent Diet" does not comply with Clause 7.5(vii): the diet contains bovine ingredients but will not be accompanied by the zoosanitary certification by the standard.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively. The diets will be fed to laboratory rodents only that will be kept in an MPI-approved transitional facility, and the unused feed and all waste will be destroyed within the facility by autoclaving. The biosecurity risks that could have occurred due to the lack of diet being uncooked are therefore mitigated. For the bovine ingredient-containing diet "Modified AIN-93M Rodent Diet," the absence of the zoosanitary certificate is not a biosecurity risk given that the USA (the product's country of origin) is an OIE-recognised Negligible BSE country.