IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF SPECIFIED BEE PRODUCTS FROM ALL COUNTRIES

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Date: 22 December 2005

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF animal and animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections which outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment, if necessary.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border and, if necessary, in a transitional facility in New Zealand prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification, if necessary, which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

Part E: APPENDIX contains the application form which must be sent to New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry so that composite products containing up to 50% honey, pollen or royal jelly, can be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation from all countries into New Zealand: bee venom products; composite products containing honey, pollen or royal jelly; honey, pollen or royal jelly in encapsulated human medicines; refined beeswax products; refined propolis products; returned New Zealand honey; and trade samples of honey.

1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of specified bee products imported into New Zealand is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

2 IMPORTER’S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with the Food Act 1981. These requirements are independent of the import health standard requirements and are managed by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA). Importers are advised to consult the NZFSA website: www.nzfsa.govt.nz/imported-food/index.htm or contact the NZFSA.

2.2 Once the consignment has been given biosecurity clearance into New Zealand, it is the importer’s responsibility to ensure (where relevant) that the consignment complies with the Animal Products Act 1999, especially if it is returned New Zealand product, product entering operations also used for the export of animal products, or if it is to be re-exported. Information about these requirements can be obtained from the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) website at www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/omar/01-172.htm or by contacting the local NZFSA Verification Agency office. Certification and other official assurance requirements which may be applicable are accessible at www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/manualsguides/oap/index.htm

2.3 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of bee products shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.

2.4 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Approved transitional facility
A premise that is approved under MAF Regulatory Standard 154.02.18 Transitional Facilities for Animal Products.

Bee venom product
A product containing bee venom which does not contain honey, pollen or royal jelly. MAF classifies a product containing bee venom and more than 50% honey as ‘honey’; a product containing bee venom and more than 50% pollen as ‘pollen’; a product containing bee venom and more than 50% royal jelly as ‘royal jelly’, and a product that contains bee venom and up to 50% honey, pollen or royal jelly, or honey as a ‘composite product’.

Biosecurity clearance
As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993. Products given biosecurity clearance are free from all restrictions.

Biosecurity Standards Group Manager
The Biosecurity Standards Group Manager, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager

**Composite product containing honey, pollen or royal jelly**
A product which contains honey, pollen or royal jelly but is not classified by MAF as honey, pollen or royal jelly (i.e. products that have less than 50% of honey, pollen or royal jelly by weight or volume). Examples of composite products include animal feeds, baked products, cosmetics, cereals, dressings, flavourings, jams, milk products, nutritional supplements, liquors, non-alcoholic beverages, mead, medicines, mustards, sauces, tonics, vinegars and wines.

**Equivalence**
Acceptance by the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

**Encapsulated human medicine containing honey, pollen or royal jelly**
A pill or capsule that is formulated so that the honey, pollen or royal jelly components are completely covered by an edible substance that does not contain sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly. Examples include wax coated pills and gelatin based capsules. Note this does not include sachets or vials where the bee product ingredients are consumed and the packaging is disposed of after consumption.

**Foundation beeswax sheet**
A patterned sheet of wax which is given to the bees as a guide for construction of their combs.

**Honey**
Types of honey (e.g. blossom or nectar honey, and honeydew honey), products preserved in honey (e.g. fruit and nuts in honey), honey products (e.g. natural honey flavour, honey spread, honey extract, and dried honey), honey mixed with other ingredients (fruit flavoured honey, rose honey, honey with pollen and propolis, and royal jelly in honey), and products where the honey ingredients make up at least 50% of the product by weight or volume (e.g., honey fruit vinegar syrups, honey spreads, honey syrup bases in herbal preparations).

**Inspector**
A person appointed as an inspector under the Biosecurity Act 1993 by the Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

**MAF**
The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

**Original sealed commercial packaging**
A product that has been packed for retail and has a label attached that states the product name, ingredients, manufacturer’s name and address and country of origin of the product. The packaging is impervious and sealed at the point of packing. The original packaging must be intact i.e. has not been opened. Examples are screw-top glass or plastic containers with tamper-proof seals, sealed foil retort pouches, vacuum packed and heat-sealed plastic containers and cans.
Pollen
Any product that contains more than 50% pollen by weight or volume.

Private Consignment
A small quantity (approximately 20 kg or less) of bee products as specified in this import health standard arriving in New Zealand e.g. in personal effects, accompanying passengers or via the mail system. The products must not be intended for sale to the New Zealand public.

Raw beeswax
Wax that has not been processed or refined in any way which may contain traces of honey, pollen, and propolis.

Raw propolis
Flakes or discs of propolis that have not been processed or refined in any way which may contain traces of honey, pollen, and hive debris.

Refined beeswax products
Melted and clarified beeswax blocks and commercially manufactured beeswax products such as candles, beeswax polish, lubricants, and surf wax.

Refined propolis
Propolis extracted in oil, alcohols, propylene glycol, acetone or other solvents which may be traded in liquid form or dried. This definition does not include raw flakes of propolis.

Royal Jelly
Any product that contains more than 50% royal jelly by weight or volume.

4 EQUIVALENCE

4.1 It is expected that the specified bee product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the product does not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to the Animal Imports Team, Biosecurity Standards Group, Pre-clearance Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, MAF, PO Box 2526, Wellington for consideration. This application should include detailed information to support the application.

4.2 Decisions about equivalence shall be based on the MAF publication, Biosecurity New Zealand Import Risk Analysis: Honey Bee Products. This analysis is available on the MAF website at http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/pests-diseases/animals/risk/ira-bee-products.pdf

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT
5.1 The following products do not require a permit to import but they must meet the eligibility requirements detailed in section 6:

5.1.1 bee venom products;
5.1.2 composite products containing less than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly;
5.1.3 honey, pollen or royal jelly in encapsulated human medicines packaged for direct retail sale;
5.1.4 refined beeswax products;
5.1.5 refined propolis products; and
5.1.6 returned New Zealand honey.

5.2 Composite products containing at least 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly need to be assessed by MAF before they are issued a permit to import.

5.2.1 Requests for an assessment must be sent to the Animal Imports Team, Biosecurity Standards Group, Pre-clearance Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, MAF, PO Box 2526, Wellington for consideration. Applicants should complete the application form in PART E: APPENDIX of this import health standard and include detailed information to support the application where appropriate.

5.2.2 MAF may require additional documentation, or for the products to be directed for treatment or packaging to an approved transitional facility in New Zealand.

5.2.3 Once an assessment has been made for each composite product, it is up to the discretion of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager to decide that either:

5.2.3.1 the importer will be issued a permit to import as long as the product complies with this import health standard and the conditions listed in the permit; or
5.2.3.2 the importer will not be issued a permit to import and the specified bee product will not be able to be imported into New Zealand.

5.3 Encapsulated human medicines containing honey, pollen and royal jelly which are not packaged for direct retail sale, and trade samples of honey must be issued a permit so that they can be directed to a transitional facility.

5.3.1 The importer must supply all of the following information to the Animal Imports Team, Biosecurity Standards Group, Pre-clearance Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, MAF, PO Box 2526, Wellington for consideration. This application should include detailed information to support the application.

5.3.1.1 name and address of importer;
5.3.1.2 name and address of exporter;
5.3.1.3 description of the product to be imported; and
5.3.1.4 name and address of the TRANSITIONAL FACILITY to which the consignment is to proceed following importation.

5.4 Where permits to import are issued by MAF, these permits are valid for a period no longer than 12 months after which entry of the specified product will be reviewed.

6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed documentation where specified in section 7 of this import health standard.

6.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).

6.3 It is the importer’s responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.

7 ELIGIBILITY

7.1 The following bee products are eligible for a biosecurity clearance:

7.1.1 bee venom products as private or commercial consignments (Refer to the definition of a bee venom product in this import health standard);

7.1.2 composite products containing honey, pollen or royal jelly as commercial consignments provided they:

EITHER  
7.1.2.1 are boiled confectionery such as boiled sweets, caramels, chocolate, fudge, halvah and nougats;

OR  
7.1.2.2 are accompanied by a manufacturer’s declaration that they contain less than 2% honey, pollen, or royal jelly;

OR  
7.1.2.3 have been assessed by MAF as eligible for import, have been subject to any additional sanitary measures specified by MAF, and are accompanied by a permit to import issued by MAF. (Refer also to sections 5, 9 and 11 of this import health standard);

7.1.3 composite products containing honey, pollen or royal jelly as private consignments provided that they:

EITHER  
7.1.3.1 are baked food products such as cakes, biscuits, bread, breakfast cereals, crackers, and honey roasted nuts, are shelf stable and packaged for direct retail sale;
7.1.3.2 are boiled confectionery such as boiled sweets, caramels, chocolate, fudge, halvah, and nougats;

7.1.3.3 are cosmetics such as foaming products, creams and emulsions, packs or masks, and lip preparations. (Note: This excludes medicinal ointments or lipogels with honey, pollen or royal jelly as an active ingredient such as honey healing ointments);

7.1.3.4 are accompanied by a manufacturer’s declaration that they contain less than 2% honey, pollen, or royal jelly;

7.1.3.5 have been assessed by MAF as eligible for import, have been subject to any additional sanitary measures specified by MAF, and are accompanied by a permit to import issued by MAF. (Refer also to sections 5, 9 and 11 of this import health standard);

7.1.4 encapsulated human medicines containing honey, pollen or royal jelly as private or commercial consignments provided that the bee products are completely covered by an edible substance does not contain sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly (such as gelatin or wax); and

EITHER
7.1.4.1 already commercially packaged for direct retail sale prior to export to New Zealand;

OR
7.1.4.2 are accompanied by a permit to import issued by MAF, and have been packaged in New Zealand for direct retail sale in an approved transitional facility under a biosecurity direction. (Refer also to sections 5, 9 and 11 of this import health standard);

7.1.5 refined beeswax products provided an inspector has no reason to believe after visual inspection of the product, labelling and any associated documentation that they are intended for use in the beekeeping industry; and

EITHER
7.1.5.1 are commercially manufactured into products such as candles, beeswax polish, lubricants, and surf wax;

OR
7.1.5.2 are accompanied by a manufacturer’s declaration stating that the beeswax has been heated to at least 60°C for 2 hours and clarified;

7.1.6 refined propolis products provided they are commercially packaged for retail sale;

7.1.7 returned New Zealand honey (private consignments, trade samples, commercial consignments that have been either rejected or sent for offshore
sterilisation) provided they are commercially packaged in original sealed packaging; and provided an inspector has no reason to believe after visual inspection of the product, labelling and any associated documentation that the honey is of New Zealand origin, and was packed in New Zealand.

7.2 **Trade samples of honey** are not eligible for a biosecurity clearance, but may be given a biosecurity direction to an approved transitional facility for evaluation provided they are accompanied by a permit to import issued by MAF. (Refer also to section 5 and 9 of this import health standard).

7.3 This import health standard excludes the following bee products: honey, foundation beeswax sheets, pollen, raw beeswax, raw propolis, and royal jelly.

Notes:

1. Refer to the import health standard for the importation of specified bee products from Australia, BEEPROIC. AUS, for the importation of bee products that require zoosanitary certification from Australia (foundation beeswax and raw beeswax, honey, pollen, raw propolis, and royal jelly) available on the MAF website at [insert URL when standard is issued].

2. Refer to the import health standard for the importation of specified bee products from Pacific Island countries, BEEPROIC.PAC for the importation of bee products that require zoosanitary certification from Niue, Pitcairn Island, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu (foundation beeswax and raw beeswax, honey, pollen, and royal jelly) available on the MAF website at [insert URL when standard is issued].

3. Importers that intend to import honey, foundation beeswax and raw beeswax, pollen, raw propolis, and royal jelly from countries other than Australia, Niue, Pitcairn Island, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and must complete an application for the development of an import health standard. This form is available on the MAF website at [http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/animals/ihs-applications.htm](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/animals/ihs-applications.htm).


**PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

8 **BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

8.1 An inspector may inspect consignments upon arrival in New Zealand to check that they meet the conditions of eligibility stated in section 6 of this import health standard.

8.2 Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of eligibility, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity
direction pursuant to section 25 or a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

8.3 If the consignment does not meet all requirements, it must be reshipped or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

9 BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

9.1 If the bee product does not meet the conditions of eligibility stated in section 6 of this import health standard or any other measures stated in the permit to import as being required before the product is exported, the shipment will not be issued a biosecurity direction and shall be reshipped or destroyed.

9.2 After inspection of the consignment and any accompanying documentation, the inspector shall give a biosecurity direction under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, authorising the product to be moved to an approved transitional facility named in the permit to import.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

10.1 None required.

PART E. APPENDIX

11.1 The following application form must be completed by the importer and sent to MAF for so that a decision can be made about the importation of composite products containing at least 2% honey, pollen and royal jelly on a case-by-case basis.
Request for a Case-by-Case Assessment of a Composite Product Containing at Least 2% Honey, Pollen or Royal Jelly

- Submit your application to Animal Imports Team, Biosecurity Standards Group, Pre-clearance Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington as early as possible, and in any case, not less than 15 working days before the intended date of import.

- Ensure that the information given in this form is correct and sign and date the Declaration at the end of the form.

- If importing several composite products with different ingredients, processing information, packaging or intended uses, complete a new form for each product.

**Section 1: Applicant’s details**
**Please complete for all applications**

1. Name and full postal address of importing company or individual

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<th>Name and Full Address</th>
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2. Full name of contact at importing company

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3. Full postal address of destination premises if different from importer’s address.

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Draft Import Health Standard for the Importation into New Zealand of Specified Bee Products from All Countries
BEEPROID.ALL  22 December 2005
### Section 2: Description of consignment

Please complete for all applications

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<td>4.</td>
<td>Country of origin</td>
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<td>Product name</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Product description (include frozen or refrigerated where applicable)</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Details of how the product is packaged, contained and sealed</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Is the product packaged for direct retail sale?  YES  NO</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Details of labelling</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Quantity (No. of cartons/boxed/packages etc.)</td>
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### Section 3: Background information

11. If MAF as issued you any previous import permits for similar products in the past, list the year that the last permit was issued and describe the previous product.

### Section 4: Processing Information

Please complete for all applications

#### 4A. Proportion of Bee Product Ingredients

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<td>12.</td>
<td>State the percentages of all ingredients in the product by weight (if a dry product) or volume (if a liquid product) in descending order.</td>
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#### 4B. Origin of Bee Product Ingredients

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<td>13.</td>
<td>List country or countries of origin for all bee product ingredients</td>
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4C. Treatment

14. List details of all heat treatment and mixing the product has undergone during manufacture. If two or more processes are used please detail them all.

15. Will the product been irradiated to at least 15 kGy before it enters New Zealand?

YES  NO

16. Describe whether the procedures or systems outlined in question 16 or 17 come under a certified scheme.

Section 5. Intended Use of the Product

17. What is the intended use of the product?

For human consumption
For human medical application
As animal feed
In the beekeeping industry

18. Describe this use in detail

Section 6: Declaration

Please complete for all applications

I, the undersigned hereby declare that the information provided above is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and understand that if an import permit is issued, I must comply in full to the conditions attached to such a permit.

Signature
Date
Name
Position
held