

DRAFT IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF SPECIFIED BEE PRODUCTS FROM PACIFIC ISLAND 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.

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 which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

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 into New Zealand from Niue, Pitcairn Island, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu of bee products that require zoosanitary certification. These products include foundation beeswax sheets and raw beeswax, honey, pollen, raw propolis, and royal jelly.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of bee products imported into New Zealand is dependant 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
- 2.4 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.
- 2.5 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

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.

Equivalence

Acceptance by the Director Pre-clearance 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.

Foundation beeswax sheets

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 more than 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.

Pollen

Any product that contains more than 50% pollen by weight or volume.

Raw beeswax

Wax that has not been refined which may contain traces of honey, pollen, propolis and hive debris.

Raw propolis

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

Royal Jelly

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

4 EQUIVALENCE

- 4.1 It is expected that the animal product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do 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 will 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>

- 4.3 If importers intend using testing or treatment regimes other than those stated in the *VETERINARY CERTIFICATE* or *Biosecurity New Zealand Import Risk Analysis: Honey Bee Products*, the risks of introducing diseases and pests with the commodities subject to the alternative sanitary measure must be assessed, and this assessment must be approved by MAF. Where a risk assessment is required for equivalence, all costs involved with this risk assessment shall be borne by the importer or agent.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 A permit to import is not required.

6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed documentation which meets the requirements of PART B. ELIGIBILITY.
- 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 from Niue, Pitcairn Island, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu are eligible for biosecurity clearance provided that the products are accompanied by zoosanitary certification based on *VETERINARY CERTIFICATE* of this import health standard:
- 7.1.1 foundation beeswax and raw beeswax;
 - 7.1.2 honey;
 - 7.1.3 pollen;
 - 7.1.4 raw propolis; and
 - 7.1.5 royal jelly.
- 7.2 This import health standard does not cover the importation of the following bee products from Niue, Pitcairn Island, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu. Importation of these specified bee products are included in *BEEPROIC.ALL*, the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of specified bee products from all countries, available on the MAF

website at [insert URL when standard is issued]:

- 7.2.1 bee venom products;
- 7.2.2 composite products containing up to 50% honey, pollen or royal jelly;
- 7.2.3 encapsulated human medicines containing honey, pollen or royal jelly;
- 7.2.4 refined beeswax products;
- 7.2.5 refined propolis products;
- 7.2.6 trade samples of honey; and
- 7.2.7 returned New Zealand honey.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

8 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

- 8.1 An inspector at the port of arrival shall inspect either the consignment or samples of the consignment.
- 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 clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. If the consignment does not meet all requirements, it must be reshipped or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

9 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

- 9.1 The following documents are recognised by MAF as equivalent to the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION, and are approved to accompany imports of the bee products listed in this import health standard.

10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

Commodity: HONEY BEE PRODUCTS

To: NEW ZEALAND

Exporting Country:

Certifying Authority:

I. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT

- (i). Name/s and address/es of processing premises:
- (ii). Processing premises registration number:

II. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

- (i). The commodity contained in this consignment is (describe form and packaging):
- (ii). Amount (in kgs) of the consignment:

III. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

- (i). Name and address of New Zealand importer:

IV. VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I, being an Official Veterinarian or Official Certifying Officer authorised by the government of (country of origin) certify to official knowledge, with respect to the honey bee products identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1 Origin of product, inspection, testing or treatment requirements for all bee products

- 1.1 The bee products originate from apiaries in and European foulbrood (*Melissococcus pluton*), bee louse (*Braula coeca*), and small hive beetle (*Aethina tumida*) have never been reported in this country.
- 1.2 The bee products originate from hives that were inspected for American foulbrood (*Paenibacillus larvae larvae*) within the previous 12 months by Government approved apiaries inspector and found not to be clinically infected or suspected to be clinically infected with American foulbrood.

2 Origin of product and treatment requirement for specified products

- 2.1 If the product is **comb honey** or **pollen**, the product has been subject to one of the following risk management measures for *Varroa* and *Eugarroa* mites

EITHER

- 2.1.1 the product originates from where there have been no reported cases of *Varroa* or *Eugarroa* species mites;

OR

- 2.1.2 the product has been held for at least 2 weeks in a bee-free environment prior to export;

OR

- 2.1.3 the product has been frozen at -18 °C for 48 hours.

(delete options not used)

- 2.2 If the product is **raw beeswax** or **raw propolis**, the product has been subject to the following risk management measures for hitchhiker organisms: freezing at -18 °C or below for at least 7 days.

(delete clause if product is not raw beeswax or raw propolis)

.....
Signature of Official Veterinarian or Certifying Officer

.....
Date

Name and address of office:
.....

N.B. Official stamp of the government veterinary authority of the exporting country must be applied to all pages of zoosanitary certification.