IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR NATURAL CASINGS (PORCINE/OVINE/CAPRINE) FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

Issued under Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Dated: 07 September 2010

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 that 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, transport 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 Issued under section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for natural casings (porcine/ovine/caprine) for human consumption from the European Union.

1.2 To obtain biosecurity clearance the consignment must meet 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 Director Border Standards.
2. IMPORTER’S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 The costs of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of casings for human consumption shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.

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

2.3 Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption in New Zealand 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 contact the NZFSA or consult the NZFSA website: [www.nzfsa.govt.nz/imported-food/index.htm](http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/imported-food/index.htm)

2.4 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: [www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/omar/01-172.htm](http://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](http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/manualsguides/oap/index.htm).

3. DEFINITION OF TERMS

64/432/EEC

92/118/EEC

97/132/EC

852/2004/EC

853/2004/EC

854/2004/EC

2002/99/EC

Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002

Biosecurity clearance
A clearance under section 26 of the Biosecurity Act (1993) for the entry of goods into New Zealand. (Explanatory Note: Goods given a Biosecurity Clearance by an Inspector are released to the importer without restriction).

European Union
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and United Kingdom.

Inspector
A person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

MAF
New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Natural Casings
These are derived from the small intestinal tracts of ruminant and porcine species and are comprised of the sub mucosal layer of the small intestines. Collagen casings are covered by a separate import health standard (see Importing Specified Foods for Human consumption Containing Animal Products).

Official Veterinarian
A veterinarian authorised by the National Veterinary Competent Authority of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of the chapter of the OIE Code pertaining to principles of certification and Council Directive 96/93/EC.
4. EQUIVALENCE

The import health standard has been agreed as suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the consignment will meet the conditions in every respect.

Occasionally it may be found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply with the specific requirements in this import health standard, but may meet the outcomes sought. In such cases, a permit to import application may be made, an equivalence granted and import permit issued at the discretion of MAF. The following information must be forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority for an equivalence to be considered:

- which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- the reason the consignment is considered to be of an "equivalent health" status;
- the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believe this proposal should be acceptable to the MAF and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 Natural casings must be derived from pigs, sheep, or goats. (porcine/ovine/caprine).

5.2 For casings which have been imported into the European Union from a third country and are subsequently destined for export to New Zealand, the following requirements must be met:

5.2.1 In each case, the product must originate from a third country eligible to export the product directly to New Zealand i.e. Australia, Canada and United States of America.

5.2.2 The following additional declaration shall be included on the model health certificate (see PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION):

“"The product described herein was derived/partly derived from product which:

i. was imported into the European Union from: ..................................................
   (Country/countries of origin)

ii. was further stored, handled, processed, wrapped, and/or packaged in an establishment which is eligible to process product for intra-Community trade,
iii. is the subject of an existing import health standard between New Zealand and the third country/countries where the product originated (see clause 6.1.1),

iv. originated in a third country/countries and establishment(s) listed by the European Union and is eligible for export to the European Union.”

5.2.3 A copy of the original “import” certificate (i.e. certificate(s) used to import the product into the European Union) is to be attached to the signed Member State health certificate (see PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION). This copy is to be endorsed “certified copy of original” and signed by the certifying officer.

6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.

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

6.2.1 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.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

7. BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

7.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival.

7.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, as appropriate, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 or biosecurity direction pursuant to section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

8. NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

8.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF to accompany imports of casings (porcine/ovine/caprine) for human consumption from the European Union:
9. ANIMAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR CASINGS (derived from pigs, sheep, or goats) - ANNEX A

Name of Animal Product: .................................................................................................................

Certificate Number: .........................................................................................................................

Exporting Member State: ....................................................................................................................

Competent Ministry of Exporting Member State: ............................................................................... 

I. Identification of Product

Number of packages: ............................................................................................................................

Nature of packaging: ..............................................................................................................................

Nature of the goods: ............................................................................................................................... 

Species product derived from: .............................................................................................................

Net weight in kilograms (kg): ................................................................................................................

Number of the container(s) and container seal number(s): .................................................................

Production date(s): ..............................................................................................................................

II. Origin of Product

Name and official approval number(s) of establishment(s): ..............................................................

Product derived from animals born and reared ..................................................................................

(List applicable countries / Member States)

III. Consignment Information

Place of loading: .................................................................................................................................

Name and address of consignor: ...........................................................................................................

............................................................................................................................................................

Name and address of consignee: ...........................................................................................................

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Port of Disembarkation: ....................................................................................................................... 

Country of Final Destination: NEW ZEALAND
IV. Health Attestation

I the undersigned hereby certify that:

The animal products herein described, comply with the relevant European Community animal health/public health standards and requirements which have been recognised as equivalent to the New Zealand standards and requirements as prescribed in Council Decision 97/132/EC, as last amended, specifically, in accordance with:


V. Additional Declarations/Guarantees:

1. I the undersigned hereby certify that the animal product is eligible for intra-community trade without restriction.

2. I the undersigned hereby certify that this product does not contain and is not derived from porcine, ovine, or caprine, other than those derived from animals born, continuously reared and slaughtered in the European Union and which has been produced in full compliance with Regulations of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No 999/2001 and (EC) No 1774/2002 as applicable.

VI. This certificate is valid for 4 months from the date of issue (unless revoked)

Done at:...................... on:......................

Signature and Seal of Official Veterinarian:...................................

(Note: The signature and official seal must be in a colour different to that of the printing.)

Ref: AI-EU01O

MEACASIC.EEC