

# **DRAFT IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR FRESHWATER PRAWNS FROM HAWAII**

**Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993**

**Dated: 15 December 2006**

## **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, such as those relating to the permit to import, eligibility, transport and the 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 of freshwater prawns into New Zealand from Hawaii.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of imported freshwater prawns from Hawaii is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this Import Health Standard.

## **2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.1 The costs of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of freshwater prawns from Hawaii 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 The importer must give the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the port of arrival, at least 7 days notice of the expected time of arrival and flight number.
- 2.4 The importer or agent must make all arrangements for transport of the freshwater prawns to and within New Zealand. If the planned route is not directly from Hawaii to the port of entry into New Zealand, the importer must obtain the necessary transit authorities from any third countries on the transport route.
- 2.5 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure that they are compliant with the current version of the relevant import health standard at the time of importation into New Zealand. Current versions of import health standards are available online at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/commercial-imports/import-health-standards/search>

## **3 EQUIVALENCE**

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

Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply completely with this import health standard. In such cases, an application for equivalence may be considered and may be issued at the discretion of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager, but only if the following information is forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority:

- 3.1 which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- 3.2 the reason the consignment is considered to be of an "equivalent health" status and/or what proposal is made to return the consignment to an equivalent health status as set out in this standard; and
- 3.3 the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believe this proposal should be acceptable to the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager and their recommendation for its acceptance.

## 4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

### *Aquatic Manual*

The World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties)  
*Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*

### **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)

### **Biosecurity Direction**

Written authority from an inspector, given under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act (1993), to move uncleared goods from a transitional facility or biosecurity control area to another transitional facility, containment facility or biosecurity control area, or to re-export those goods from New Zealand

### **Certifying official**

A person authorised by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country to sign international veterinary certificates.

### **Inspector**

Means a person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act (1993).

### **Official Veterinarian**

A veterinarian of an exporting country's Veterinary Authority who is authorised according to official procedures to sign international veterinary certificates.

### **Transitional facility**

Means (a) any place approved as a transitional facility in accordance with section 39 of the Biosecurity Act (1993) for the purpose of inspection, testing, storage, treatment, holding or destruction of uncleared goods; or (b) a part of a port declared to be a transitional facility in accordance with section 39 of the Biosecurity Act (1993).

### **Veterinary Authority**

Means the governmental Veterinary Service that has authority for implementing, supervising and auditing the animal health measures and international veterinary certification processes recommended by the *Aquatic Code*.

## PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

### 5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 A permit to import is required to import freshwater prawns from Hawaii.
- 5.2 An application for a permit to import can be obtained from:

Animal Imports Team, Pre-Clearance Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington

Email: [imports@maf.govt.nz](mailto:imports@maf.govt.nz) or fax: +64 4 894 0662

5.3 The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment.

## **6 ELIGIBILITY**

6.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to live adult freshwater prawn species *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*, sourced from Hawaii, for use as broodstock.

6.2 All requirements of this import health standard, including those detailed in the Model Zoosanitary Certificate must be met for the freshwater prawns to be eligible for entry into quarantine in New Zealand.

## **7 PRE –EXPORT ISOLATION**

7.1 The freshwater prawns must be held in a pre-export isolation facility approved by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for at least 28 days prior to the scheduled date of export.

7.2 During this pre-export isolation period the prawns must be continuously held in water that has been subjected to a water quality system of temperature control, filtration and treatment as specified in the Zoosanitary Certificate.

7.3 At the start of the pre-export isolation a sample of 150 prawns from the host population must be subject to testing as specified in the Zoosanitary Certificate.

7.4 All prawns that die during this pre-export isolation period must be subject to testing for white spot syndrome virus (WSSV), *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* nodavirus (MrNV) and extra small virus (XSV), with negative results, as specified in the Zoosanitary Certificate.

7.5 All testing must be conducted at a laboratory approved by the USDA to conduct export testing.

## **8 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

8.1 Each consignment must be accompanied by the following documentation:

8.1.1 A permit to import

8.1.2 Zoosanitary Certificate with attached original or certified copies of the specified laboratory test results.

- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 The certifying official of the exporting country must sign, date and stamp the veterinary certificate and any documents that form part of the extended certificate using a different colour ink to that of the printing of the Zoosanitary Certificate.

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

### **9 BIOSECURITY DIRECTION**

- 9.1 Providing the consignment is accompanied by a permit to import and zoosanitary certification, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity direction pursuant to section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, to the transitional facility named in the permit to import.

### **10 TRANSITIONAL FACILITY**

- 10.1 The freshwater prawns must be held in a transitional facility complying with the MAF Standard 154.02.06: *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Marine Invertebrates* <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/animals/154-02-06.htm>
- 10.2 Water used during transport must be treated according to the MAF Standard 154.02.06: *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Marine Invertebrates*.
- 10.3 The following conditions listed in this import health standard are required in addition to those in the MAF Standard 154.02.06: *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Marine Invertebrates*:
- 10.3.1 During the post-arrival quarantine period, no duties of the Supervisor of the transitional facility shall be assigned to an Inspector.
- 10.3.2 The Supervisor shall make regular visits for each consignment of freshwater prawns. These are:
- (i) on arrival
  - (ii) each time a batch of larvae is sent for testing
  - (iii) at the end of the quarantine period.
- 10.4 Any freshwater prawn broodstock that are found dead on arrival at the transitional facility and any dead or moribund prawns that are detected during the quarantine period must be sent to the Biosecurity New Zealand Investigation and Diagnostic Centre (IDC) for a thorough virological, bacteriological and histopathological examination.

- 10.5 The freshwater prawn broodstock must not be permitted to leave the transitional facility until they are given biosecurity clearance.
- 10.6 All freshwater prawn broodstock and batches of larvae may only be given biosecurity clearance when all of the following requirements have been met:
- 10.6.1 the broodstock have been quarantined for at least 12 months;
  - 10.6.2 at least three batches of larvae have been spawned from imported and/or domestic origin broodstock;
  - 10.6.3 at least 150 larvae from each of three batches have been subject to the nested PCR test for White spot syndrome virus (WSSV), as recommended in the *Aquatic Manual* at IDC, with negative results.
- 10.7 When domestic origin broodstock share the same water as the imported broodstock in the transitional facility, the domestic origin broodstock will be assumed to have the same health status as the imported broodstock, and cannot leave the transitional facility until they are given biosecurity clearance.
- 10.8 If testing of any of the samples is positive for exotic disease, all prawns in the consignment will be rejected and will not be eligible for biosecurity clearance. No compensation will be paid for freshwater prawns slaughtered as a result of testing for disease or for diagnosis.

## **11 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

- 11.1 On satisfactory completion of the post-arrival quarantine conditions stated in Section 10: Transitional Facility, and the MAF Standard 154.02.06: *Transitional Facilities for Ornamental Fish and Marine Invertebrates*, the Supervisor may subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, issue a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

## **PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE**

### **12 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION**

The following model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand to accompany imports of freshwater prawns to New Zealand from Hawaii:

**MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

Commodity: FRESHWATER PRAWNS

Species: *MACROBRACHIUM ROSENBERGII*

Destination country: NEW ZEALAND

Exporting Country: USA

Competent Authority: .....

Import Permit Number: .....

**I IDENTIFICATION**

Identification of container

Number of freshwater prawns per container

Age of freshwater prawns (years): .....

Total number of freshwater prawns in consignment: .....

**II ORIGIN OF FRESHWATER PRAWNS**

Name and address of exporting aquaculture establishment: .....

Name and address of exporter (if different to aquaculture establishment above):.....

**III DESTINATION OF FRESHWATER PRAWNS**

Name and address of consignee: .....

Means of transport:.....

## IV: SANITARY INFORMATION

### VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I, ..... being an Official Veterinarian or Certifying Official authorised by the United States of America, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the freshwater prawns identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate that:

1. The freshwater prawns are adult *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*.
2. The freshwater prawns originate from prawns which in the last 2 years have been tested at least once a year for White spot syndrome virus (WSSV), *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* nodavirus (MrNV) and extra small virus (XSV), with negative results.
3. The freshwater prawns have been continuously resident in the approved USDA exporting aquaculture establishment since hatching.
4. To remove all known vectors of *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*, the water in the exporting aquaculture establishment was subject to one of the following:
  - 4.1.1 filtration to a level of 20 µm; AND/OR
  - 4.1.2 ultraviolet irradiation; AND/OR
  - 4.1.3 ozonation(Delete as appropriate)
5. Twenty eight days prior to the scheduled date of export, the freshwater prawns were transferred to pre-export isolation tanks.
6. The pre-export isolation tanks had their own water supply of water held at a temperature greater than or equal to 10 °C, filtered to permit entry of a particle size of no greater than 5 µm and subject to either:
  - 6.1.1 UV radiation at a level of at least 25,000 µWs/cm<sup>2</sup>; OR
  - 6.1.2 ozonation at a level of at least 0.2 mg/L for at least 4 minutes; OR
  - 6.1.3 chlorination/de-chlorination with at least 2% available chlorine for at least 10 minutes.(Delete as appropriate)
7. When the prawns for export entered pre-export isolation, a sample of 150 individuals were taken from the host population and subject to the following diagnostic tests, with negative results:
  - 7.1.1 A nested PCR of haemolymph, gills or pleopods for WSSV  
Date of sampling: .....  
Date of test:.....
  - 7.1.2 A PCR of haemolymph, gills, tail muscle or pleopods for MrNV and XSV  
Date of sampling: .....

Date of test:.....

- 8. All freshwater prawns that died during pre-export isolation were tested for WSSV, MrNV and XSV, with negative results.
- 9. All testing for WSSV was undertaken using the nested PCR as recommended in the *Aquatic Manual*.
- 10. All testing for MrNV and XSV was undertaken using the PCR method recommended by K Yoganandhan, JS Widada, JR Bonami , AS Sahul Hameed 2005. ‘Simultaneous detection of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* nodavirus and extra small virus by a single tube, one step multiplex RT-PCR assay’. *Journal of Fish Diseases*, vol. 28, pp 65-69.
- 11. All testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the USDA to conduct export testing. Laboratory tests results for all tests specified in the zoosanitary certificate are attached.
- 12. The freshwater prawns were exported in water that is filtered to permit entry of a particle size of no greater than 5µm followed by either:
  - 12.1 UV radiation at a level of at least 25,000 µWs/cm<sup>2</sup>; OR
  - 12.2 ozonation at a level of at least 0.2 mg/L for at least 4 minutes; OR
  - 12.3 chlorination/de-chlorination with at least 2% available chlorine for at least 10 minutes.

(Delete as appropriate)
- 13. At the time of export, the freshwater prawns were examined and were free of clinical signs of pests or disease.
- 14. After inspection, the freshwater prawns were placed in a container with an official seal and precautions were adopted so that there will be no water exchange during transport.

Seal number(s): .....

Official stamp

.....  
.....

Name and signature of Certifying Official

Date

.....  
.....

Name and address of office

*This certificate must be completed no more than three (3) days prior to shipment*