

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original:

## NOTIFICATION

### Addendum

The following communication, received on 21 April 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of member:

NEW ZEALAND  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF).

New Zealand has made a minor amendment to the import health standard 155.02.05 Importation of Seed for Sowing. A summary of the changes to the import health standard are described below.

#### **Amendments to Section 1**

Updated references to legislation in Section 1.2 and updated contact details for MAF Biosecurity New Zealand in Section 1.4.

#### **Amendments to Section 2**

Section 2.2.3.2 Seed analysis: Inclusion of requirement for seed sample when pelleted seed is not accompanied by correct documentation, and acceptance of an accompanied phytosanitary certificate and seed analysis certificate in lieu of inspecting pelleted seed on arrival.

Section 2.2.4 Hermetically packaged seed: Includes a requirement that seed in hermetically sealed packaging requires only basic entry conditions, and may be imported without a phytosanitary certificate unless the seed requires additional declarations, treatments or post-entry quarantine.

Section 2.2.6 Genetically Modified Seed Testing has been added. This prescribes some general requirements for genetically modified seed testing procedures coming out of internal border procedures, which should be made known to any potential importer.

#### **New Schedule for *Corylus***

There are no specific entry conditions in this schedule with the exception that all seeds imported have their shells removed to permit inspection prior to entry. This requirement is included to mitigate the risk associated with the presence of *Cydia latiferreana* and *Curculio nucum* for *Corylus* consignments.

#### **New Schedule for *Curcubita pepo***

This schedule highlights the exception from importing genetically modified yellow crook neck squash varieties which are prohibited entry to New Zealand without ERMA approval. An importer or exporter's declaration is required to confirm that these varieties are not being imported.

#### **Revised Schedule for *Arabidopsis thaliana***

Amendments to this schedule provides further clarification of the two options for importing seeds; either as genetically modified or non-genetically modified seeds. A permit is required for all genetically modified seed based on an ERMA approval, and a MAF declaration form to be completed by the importer is now required for the importation of non-genetically modified seed.

**Revised Schedules for *Zea*, *Brassica Napus*, *Glycine* and *Medicago***

These schedules incorporate editorial changes in line with the revised 'Protocol for Testing Seed Imports for the Presence of Genetically Modified Seed' due to be issued during 2009. The most significant change within each schedule involves requiring seeds to be sourced from companies with MAF approved quality assurance systems that demonstrate equivalence with PCR testing every consignment of seeds. This change replaces the requirement for determination of area or country freedom from commercial production of genetically modified seed.

This addendum concerns a:

- Modification of final date for comments
- Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation
- Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation
- Withdrawal of proposed regulation
- Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force
- Other:

Comment period: N/A.

Agency or authority designated to handle comments:  National Notification Authority,  National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

Text available from:  National Notification Authority,  National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

Import Health Standard 155.02.05 Importation of Seed for Sowing; 154 pages:

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/ih/155-02-05.pdf>