

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR FROZEN BONELESS SHEEP MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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

**Dated: ??????????**

## **USER GUIDE**

The information in MAFBNZ 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 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of boneless sheep meat for human consumption from the United States of America.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of sheep meat for human consumption imported into New Zealand from the United States of America 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 Import Standards Group Manager.

## 2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of sheep meat and meat products 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 at [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 at [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

### **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).

### **Inspector BA**

Means a person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act (1993). (Explanatory Note: An Inspector is appointed to undertake administering and enforcing the provisions of the Biosecurity Act and controls imposed under Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996).

### **MAFBNZ**

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand

### **Meat**

Skeletal muscles of mammalian, reptilian and bird species with naturally included or adherent tissue or bone. This definition excludes animal by-products.

### **Official veterinarian**

A veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration 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 *Terrestrial Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

### **Terrestrial Code**

The World Organisation for Animal Health. Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

## **4 EQUIVALENCE**

4.1 The import health standard has been agreed as being suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the products 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, equivalence granted and a permit to import issued at the discretion of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, but only if the following information is forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority:

- 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 and/or what proposal is made to return the consignment to an equivalent health status as set out in this standard; and
- the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believe this proposal must be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

## **PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE**

## **5 PERMIT TO IMPORT**

- 5.1 A permit to import is not required for consignments that meet the import health standard.

## **6. ELIGIBILITY**

- 6.1 The meat shall be identifiable as originating from the United States of America.
- 6.2 The product shall comprise only of boneless meat.
- 6.3 The meat shall be commercially packed in the original unopened packaging. Full containers of product shall be sealed.

## **7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

- 7.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.
- 7.2 Documentation shall be in English.
- 7.3 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed original documentation. 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 rejection of consignments or delays in obtaining biosecurity clearance and/or direction.

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

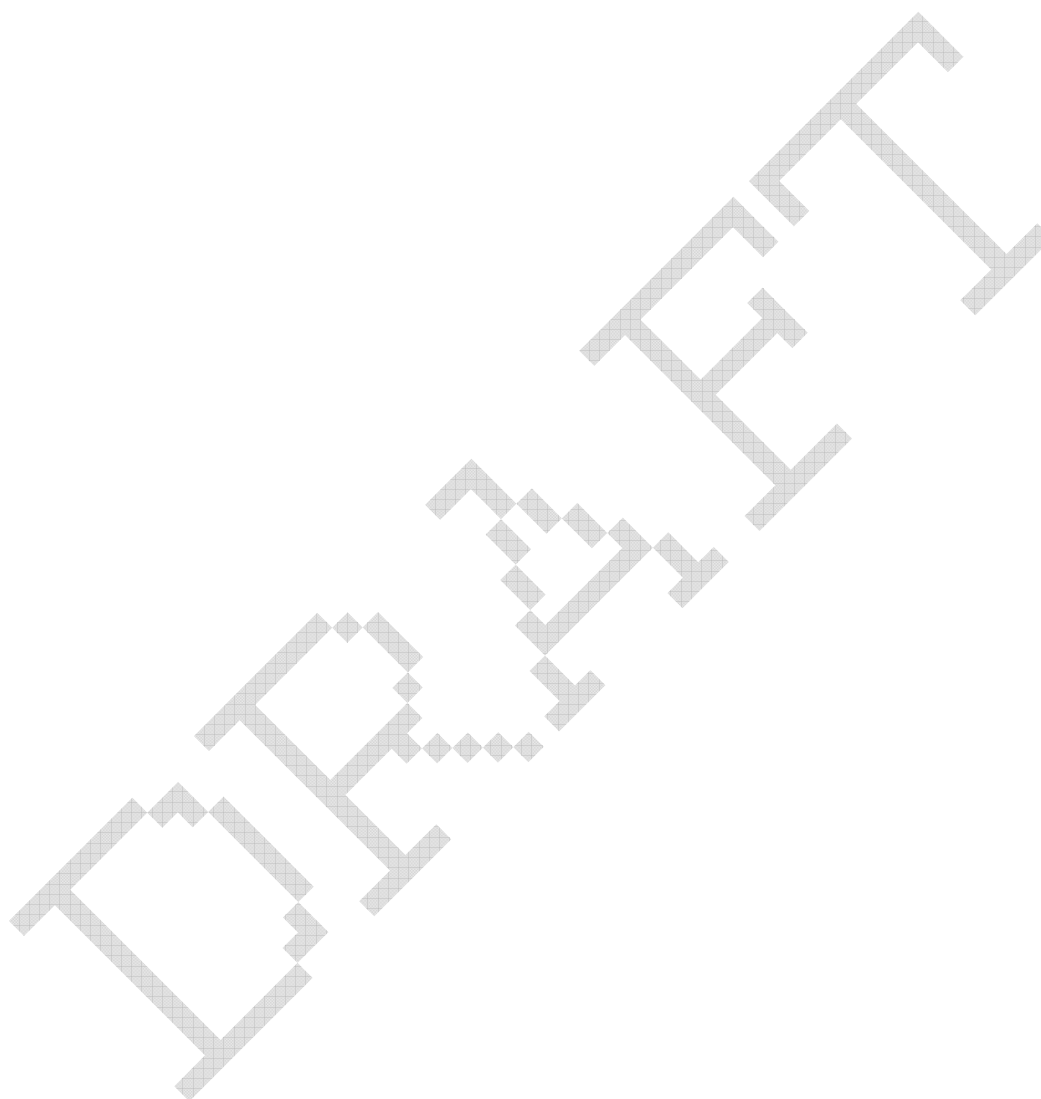
### **8 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

- 8.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.
- 8.2 Providing that the consignment meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION, 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.

## **PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

## 9 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

- 9.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAFBNZ to accompany imports of frozen boneless sheep meat for human consumption from the United States of America:



## **10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

**I. COMMODITY:** FROZEN BONELESS SHEEP MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

**II. CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:**

- i. Agency:
- ii. Department:
- iii. Country:

**III. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

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

**IV. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION**

- i. Number of packages:
- ii. Type of packaging:
- iii. Type of the goods:
- iv. Animal species product derived from:
- v. Number of the container(s) and container seal number(s):
- vi. Weight in kilograms (kg):

**V. CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION**

- i. Name and address of exporter:
- ii. Name and address of New Zealand importer:

**VI. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

- i. Port of loading/disembarkation:
- ii. Vessel/voyage number:
- iii. Port of destination in New Zealand:

## VII. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION

- 10.1 Foot and mouth disease and rinderpest have not occurred in the United States of America during the twelve months immediately prior to manufacture of the products.
- 10.2 The products were derived from animals that passed ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspection at the time of slaughter and were processed in premises under the supervision of the controlling authority and in accordance with the United States regulations.
- 10.3 The products comprise only of boneless meat.
- 10.4 The meat is sound and fit for human consumption.

Name and Signature of Official Veterinarian:  
USDA registration number:

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.**

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