

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR SALMONIDS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM SPECIFIED COUNTRIES

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 2008

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF 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 salmonids for human consumption from specified countries.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of salmonids for human consumption imported into New Zealand from specified countries 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 Manager.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of salmonids 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 importation such as 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
- 2.4 Please note that the Customs Import Prohibition (Trout) Order 2000, administered by the New Zealand Customs Service, prohibits the importation of trout and trout products in quantities exceeding 10 kilograms, or in quantities of less than 10 kilograms if the goods are intended for sale except with the consent of, and subject to such conditions as may be imposed by the Minister of Conservation. Any consignment may be subject to inspection by an authorised person under the Customs and Excise Act 1996. More information on the Customs Import Prohibition (Trout) Order is available online at; <http://www.customs.govt.nz/importers/Prohibited+Imports/default.htm>
- 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 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Animal Products

Non-viable products derived from 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.

Competent Authority

The Veterinary Services or other Authority of a Member Country, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the animal health measures or other standards in the Terrestrial Code.

Commercially prepared and packaged

A product that has been manufactured in a commercial manner by a commercial enterprise and is subsequently packaged in tamper proof packaging

Headed, gilled and gutted

Means removal of all tissues comprising the head, the gills and the internal organs.

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 HSNO).

MAFBNZ

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand.

Non-viable

Not capable of living or developing independently.

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.

Permit to import

A written order issued by the Director-General of MAF authorising the importation of risk goods to a specified facility.

Private Consignment

A consignment imported as personal property and not intended for resale. Maximum size of a private consignment will be specified in the individual standards.

Salmonids

For the purposes of this import health standard, salmonids means fish in the genera *Oncorhynchus*, *Salmo* and *Salvelinus*.

Terrestrial Code

The World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Transitional facility BA

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 Terrestrial Code.

Zoosanitary certificate

A certificate issued by the exporting country in accordance with the OIE.

4 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 salmonid 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 required for product which is intended to be further processed and/or packaged in New Zealand prior to retail sale or use in the institutional trade e.g. containers of more than one fish.
- 5.2 An application for a permit to import must be made prior to the proposed date of importation in writing to the Animal Imports Team, Border Standards Directorate, MAF Biosecurity New Zealand, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

Email: animalimports@maf.govt.nz or fax: +64 4 894 0662

- 5.3 The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment.
- 5.4 A permit to import is **not** required for private consignments (product that is no more than 10kg net weight of fish, and commercially prepared and packaged for direct retail sale) and commercial consignments (product that is commercially prepared and packaged for direct retail sale).

6 ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 This import health standard allows the importation of headed, gutted and gilled salmonids from the genera *Oncorhynchus*, *Salmo* and *Salvelinus* for human consumption from Canada, Chile, Norway and the United States of America. Please also refer to clause 2.4 of this import health standard.
- 6.2 **Private consignments of salmonids for human consumption** originating from *Canada, Chile, Norway and the United States of America* may be eligible for importation provided all the following requirements are met:
- i. The country of origin is identifiable from the packaging;
 - ii. The product is in its original packaging on arrival;
 - iii. The product must comprise of headed, gilled and gutted fish commercially prepared and packaged for direct retail sale;
 - iv. The total weight of the consignment is 10 kilograms or less.

6.3 **Commercial consignments of salmonids for human consumption** originating from *Canada, Chile, Norway and the United States of America* may be eligible for importation provided all the following requirements are met:

- i. The country of origin is identifiable from the packaging;
- ii. The product is in its original packaging on arrival;
- iii. The consignment must be accompanied by export certification meeting the requirements of Part D, Zoosanitary Certification;
- iv. The product must comprise of headed, gilled and gutted fish commercially prepared and
 - EITHER a) packaged for direct retail sale;
 - OR b) be accompanied by a permit to import requiring the products to be further processed at a transitional facility.

7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 7.1 For private consignments, no accompanying documentation is required.
- 7.2 For commercial consignments, the consignment must be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of Part D, Zoosanitary Certification.
- 7.3 Documentation shall be in English but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).
- 7.4 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 DIRECTION

- 8.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment must 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 For consignments that require further processing only, a biosecurity direction may be given by an Inspector under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 authorising the consignment to move to the transitional facility named in the permit to import, providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under Section 6, Eligibility.

9 TRANSITIONAL FACILITY

9.1 Consignments that require further processing must undergo such processing at the transitional facility named on the permit to import that is registered to the *MAF Standard 154.02.16 Transitional Facilities for Processing Imported Salmonids* (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/animals/154-02-16.htm>)

9.2 While in the transitional facility the following conditions must apply:

- (i) the product is processed and/or packaged to render the product commercially packaged for direct retail sale;
- (ii) any solid and liquid wastes produced during processing and/or packaging are managed according to a MAF approved waste management plan.

10 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

10.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment must be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival (no accompanying documentation is required for private consignments as in 7.1 above). The Inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.

10.2 Providing that the consignment meets the conditions of Section 6, Eligibility and (for products that require further processing Section 9, Transitional Facility), 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

11 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

The following model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand to accompany commercial consignments of salmonids for human consumption to New Zealand from Canada, Chile, Norway and the United States of America.

12 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

Commodity: SALMONIDS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Scientific name:

Import Permit Number (if required):

Exporting Country:

Competent Authority:

I. ORIGIN OF THE PRODUCT

- (i) Name and address of aquaculture establishment:
- (ii) Name and address of processor:
- (iii) Processing premises registration number:

II. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

- (i) The product contained in this consignment is:
 EITHER: commercially prepared and packaged for direct retail sale,
 OR: in bulk form.
(Delete one of the above)
- (ii) Amount (in kilograms) of product:

III. DESTINATION OF FISH

- (i) Name and address of New Zealand importer:
- (ii) Name and address of MAF approved transitional facility registered under *MAF Standard 154.02.16 Transitional Facilities for Processing Imported Salmonids* (for product that requires further processing):

IV. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION

I, being a certifying official of
..... (exporting country), certify after
due enquiry, with respect to the product identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate that:

1 The product is derived from fish within the genera *Oncorhynchus*, *Salmo* and *Salvelinus*.

2. The product is derived from fish that were harvested from a population;

EITHER

2.1 for which a documented health surveillance programme covering (at least) Infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus (VHSV) exists that is administered by the Competent Authority;

OR

2.2 Infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV) and viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus (VHSV) are diseases that must be notified to the Competent Authority.

(Delete either 2.1 or 2.2 as appropriate)

3 The product is derived from fish that were not slaughtered as an official disease control measure due to an outbreak of disease.

4 The product is derived from fish that were processed in a premise supervised by the Competent Authority responsible for food safety standards:

(i) headed, gilled and gutted;

(ii) individually inspected and graded, ensuring the product for export is free from visible lesions associated with infectious disease and fit for human consumption;
and

(iii) found to be sexually immature, or sexually maturing but not sexually mature.

Official stamp

.....
Name and signature of Official Veterinarian

Date

Name and address of office:

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

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