

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZL/429
date of distribution

(##-####)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original:

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: New Zealand If applicable, name of local government involved: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
2. Agency responsible: MAF Biosecurity New Zealand
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Micro-organisms
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners, or <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5. Title of the notified document: Import Health Standard for Micro-organisms from all Countries Language: English Number of pages: 10
6. Description of content: Presently, "authority to import" micro-organisms, is given without a specific Import Health Standard (IHS), by the issuing of a permit to import. Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act states that such considerations should be based on an IHS. In addition, MAF Biosecurity New Zealand policy is that IHS's should be based on a risk analysis and no risk analysis had been done for this range of goods. This IHS is based on the Import Risk Analysis: Non-viable Biological Products, Micro-organisms and other Viable cells into New Zealand (December 2005) and have been externally consulted in December 2006. This IHS was not issued after completion because Facility Standards needed to developed or updated before it could be issued. These facility changes have now been finalised. Before it was recommended for issue, it was updated to align with current procedures for the issuing of permits for micro-organisms and other IHS's. This IHS therefore does not suggest any major changes to the current procedures for the import of micro-organisms.

7.	Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8.	Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (<i>e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (<i>e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (<i>e.g. ISPM N°</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Import Risk Analysis: Non-Viable Biological Products, Micro-organisms and Other Viable Cells into New Zealand - English
10.	Proposed date of adoption: 28/07/09 Propose date of publication: 28/07/09
11.	Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (<i>dd/mm/yy</i>): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure
12.	Final date for comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (<i>dd/mm/yy</i>): Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:
13.	Texts available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: