

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR PIG SEMEN FROM CANADA OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

## **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 which 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. When MAF has accepted health certification produced by a government authority in the exporting country as meeting the requirements of the model health certification this is noted. When no health certification is required to accompany consignments Part D. will note “none required”.

## **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 pig semen from Canada or the United States of America.

1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of pig semen imported into New Zealand from Canada or the United States of America is dependant 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 CVO.

## **2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

2.1 The costs of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of pig semen 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.

## **3 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### **Biosecurity clearance**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **CVO**

The Chief Veterinary Officer, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

### **Equivalence**

Acceptance by the CVO that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

### **Inspector**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **MAF**

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

### **Official Veterinarian**

A civil service veterinarian or a specially appointed veterinarian, as authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country.

## **4 EQUIVALENCE**

This import health standard is in accordance with agreements between the exporting country and New Zealand. Biosecurity clearance will not normally be given to a consignment that does not meet the requirements of this import health standard in every respect.

Occasionally it is found that due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter a consignment does not comply with the requirements of this import health standard. In such cases, an application for equivalence submitted prior to importation will be considered and may be given at the discretion of the CVO if the following information is provided by the exporting country's government veterinary authority:

4.1 which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;

4.2 the reason/s the consignment may be considered of equivalent health status to a consignment complying with this import health standard, and/or what proposal is made to achieve an equivalent health status;

4.3 the reason/s why the veterinary authority believes this proposal should be acceptable to the CVO and their recommendation for its acceptance.

## **PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE**

### **5 PERMIT TO IMPORT**

5.1 Importations of pig semen into New Zealand from Canada or the United States of America which meet the requirements of this import health standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

### **6 ELIGIBILITY**

6.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to semen from domesticated animals which are members of the species *Sus scrofa* (pigs).

6.2 The semen must be collected at a semen collection centre which has been approved by the government veterinary authorities of the exporting country for the collection of porcine semen for export according to Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for export of porcine semen to New Zealand*.

6.3 The approved semen collection centre must be under the supervision of an Official Veterinarian authorised to supervise the collection of porcine semen for export.

6.4 All straws must be permanently marked with identification of the donor animal/s and the date of collection. If a code is used for this information, its decipher must accompany the consignment.

6.5 Only frozen pig semen is eligible for importation under this import health standard.

### **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, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).

7.3 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 and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.

## **8 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND**

8.1 The pig semen must be transported in transport containers which have been sealed with an official seal of the government veterinary authority of the exporting country. The number of the seal must be recorded in the Veterinary Certification accompanying the consignment.

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

### **9 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

9.1 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.

9.2 In the case of animal products, if there is any visible contamination (blood, faeces, soil etc.) of packaging of the consignment this shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to biosecurity clearance being given.

9.3 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, 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**

## **10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION FOR PIG SEMEN**

Exporting Country:  
Ministry/Department:  
Service:  
Region:

### **I: IDENTIFICATION OF DONOR ANIMALS**

Identification:

Species:

Breed:

Premises of origin:

### **II: INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PIG SEMEN**

Identification of straws (markings to be indelible):

Date of collection:

Number (semen doses/embryos):

Preservatives and antibiotics used:

### **III: ORIGIN OF THE PIG SEMEN**

Name and address of approved collection centre:

### **IV: DESTINATION OF THE PIG SEMEN**

Name and address of importer:

### **V: SANITARY INFORMATION**

## VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A

I, ....., being the *Official Veterinarian* supervising collection of pig semen for export certify with respect to the consignment identified in the attached Zoo-sanitary Certificate that:

### 10.1 DONOR ANIMALS

10.1.1 The donor animals have been resident in Canada or the United States of America and free from all quarantine restrictions since birth or for at least the twelve month period immediately prior to their entry into isolation prior to collection of semen for export to New Zealand.

### 10.2 HERD OF ORIGIN

10.2.1 During the 3 months prior to entry of the donor animals onto the collection centre there was no evidence in the herd of origin of the donor animals that the following diseases occurred during this period:

Aujeszky's disease, *Brucella suis*, enterovirus encephalomyelitis, leptospirosis, post-weaning multisystemic wasting syndrome, Q fever, transmissible gastroenteritis and vesicular stomatitis

### 10.3 COLLECTION CENTRE

10.3.1 The collection centre meets the health status requirements of the herd of origin specified above, in that during the 3 months prior to entry of the donor animals and for the entire period of their residence there has been no evidence of the specified diseases in animals resident on the collection centre.

10.3.2 The semen for export has been collected at a semen collection centre which has been approved by the government veterinary authorities of Canada or the United States of America for the collection of porcine semen for export according to Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for export of porcine semen to New Zealand*.

10.3.3 While resident on the collection centre the donor animals have remained isolated from other animals not of an equivalent isolation and tested health status.

10.3.4 Within 180 days before or after semen collection for export the semen collection centre has demonstrated continuing freedom from PRRS through a survey conducted within every herd of pigs in the centre using an approved multi-valent ELISA, with negative results. (For the purpose of this survey, a herd is a group of pigs housed such that an internal air-space is shared on a daily basis. In herds of up to 50 pigs, all pigs must be tested. In herds of more than 50 pigs, 50 randomly selected pigs must be tested. This number of pigs to be tested is sufficient to give 99% confidence of detecting at least one infected pig, assuming 10% prevalence and 90% test sensitivity.)

## 10.4 PRE-COLLECTION ISOLATION

10.4.1 The donor animals have completed a minimum 30 day period of isolation. During this time they have remained isolated from all other animals not of an equivalent isolation and tested health status. Not less than 21 days after the start of isolation (unless otherwise specified), the following tests and/or treatments have been completed:

(**N.B.** Pre-collection isolation may be completed as a requirement of entry onto the collection centre, or once donor animals are resident on the collection centre. The pig semen may be collected after completion of all treatment requirements during isolation, and will become eligible for export upon the donor animals and all isolation cohorts successfully completing all testing requirements.)

10.4.1.1 for *Brucella suis* using the buffered *Brucella* antigen test or ELISA, with a negative result;

Date of test:

10.4.1.2 for Aujeszky's disease, with a negative result, using:

EITHER (i) in the case of unvaccinated pigs, the ELISA;

OR (ii) in the case of gI deleted vaccine vaccinated pigs, the ELISA with gI deleted antigens; (Delete (i) or (ii) above whichever is not applicable.)

Date of test:

10.4.1.3 for transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE) using a serum neutralisation test with; EITHER: (i) negative results;

OR: (ii) positive results, in which case the samples were retested using a specific competitive blocking ELISA to differentiate TGE from porcine respiratory coronavirus. The result is negative for TGE.

(Delete (i) or (ii) above whichever is not applicable.)

Date of test/s:

10.4.1.4 for porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome using the IDEXX ELISA on two occasions, at the start of the isolation period and no less than 30 days subsequently, with negative results in each case;

Date of tests:

10.4.1.5 for leptospirosis, using dihydrostreptomycin and/or streptomycin at a dose rate of 25 mg/kg live bodyweight on two occasions 14 days apart (there is no specification for timing of treatments in relation to entry into isolation):

Dates of treatments:

10.4.2 All serological tests were conducted at a laboratory approved by the veterinary authority of Canada or the United States of America to conduct export testing, and laboratory result sheets are attached.

## 10.5 COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND STORAGE

10.5.1 On the dates of collection for export of pig semen in this consignment, no animals on the collection centre showed any clinical evidence of infectious or contagious disease.

10.5.2 All products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in the collection, processing and storage of the pig semen were certified as either sterile preparations or as having been screened for adventitious viruses including tests for cytopathology in appropriate cell cultures, for haemagglutinating and haemadsorbing viruses, and for pestiviruses by immunoperoxidase or immunofluorescence techniques, with negative results in each case.

10.5.3 All biological products have been handled in a manner which ensures their sterility was maintained.

10.5.4 An effective combination of antibiotics was added to the semen after final dilution. The combination must produce an effect at least equivalent to the following dilutions:

500 IU per ml streptomycin; or

500 IU per ml penicillin; or

150 µg per ml lincomycin; or

300 µg per ml spectinomycin.

Immediately after the addition of the antibiotics the diluted semen was kept at a temperature of at least 15 °C for a period of not less than 45 minutes.

10.5.5 After processing, the pig semen was stored in previously sterilised flasks. In the case of frozen pig semen, the liquid nitrogen has not previously been used for any other purpose.

10.5.6 In the case of frozen pig semen, prior to shipment to New Zealand the consignment has been stored under approved conditions at the collection centre for a minimum of 25 days or until the results of the post-collection testing are known, whichever is the greater.

10.5.7 During storage of frozen pig semen, any container servicing was completed under the supervision of the veterinarian appointed to the collection centre and has been conducted in a manner that prevents contamination of the container or its contents.

## 10.6 POST-COLLECTION TESTING

10.6.1 During the period of 30 days immediately following the dates of collection of pig semen for export to New Zealand, all animals on the collection centre have remained free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.

10.6.2 A sample of the semen for export from each donor boar has been tested using the reverse transcriptase nested PCR assay (RT-nPCR) for PRRS virus and found to be negative.  
Date of test:

Signature of *Official Veterinarian* supervising the collection centre:

Official stamp and date:

Name and address of office:

Name and address of collection centre:

**N.B. Official stamp must be applied to all pages.**

## VETERINARY CERTIFICATE B

I, ....., an *Official Veterinarian*, certify with respect to the pig semen identified in the attached Zoo-Sanitary Certificate, that:

### 10.7 COUNTRY/REGION HEALTH STATUS

10.7.1 During the 12 months immediately preceding the dates of collection of pig semen in this consignment and of signing of this certificate, Canada or the United States of America (circle appropriate country) has remained free from the following diseases:

foot and mouth disease, swine vesicular disease, rinderpest, classical swine fever, African swine fever and Japanese encephalitis

### 10.8 ENDORSEMENT

10.8.1 The veterinarian whose signature appears on Veterinary Certificate A is approved by the veterinary authority of Canada or the United States of America (circle appropriate country) to supervise the collection of pig semen for export.

10.8.2 Prior to export, the container in which the pig semen are to be transported was sealed using an official seal of the veterinary authority of Canada or the United States of America (circle appropriate country) bearing the following unique mark or identification number:

.....

Signature of *Official Veterinarian*:

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.**

## **APPENDIX ONE**

### **MAF STANDARD FOR SEMEN COLLECTION CENTRES FOR EXPORT OF PORCINE SEMEN TO NEW ZEALAND**

#### **1. LOCATION**

1.1. The centre must be located in a country, or part of the territory of a country, that has been free from evidence of the following diseases for a minimum 12 month period:

African swine fever, classical swine fever, foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, swine vesicular disease and vesicular stomatitis.

1.2. The centre must be conveniently located for supervision by either a Government Veterinary Officer or a registered veterinary surgeon with Government approval to supervise the collection of porcine semen for export (herein called the Supervising Official Veterinarian).

#### **2. FACILITIES**

2.1. The centre must be accessible by authorised personnel only. Such personnel (with the exception of veterinary officers who maintain necessary protection and disinfection procedures applicable to an isolation facility) are not to be concurrently employed in nor attending another pig-producing enterprise.

2.2. The centre must be roofed and ventilated to prevent resident pigs from coming into contact with any birds.

2.3. The centre must be of a permanent-type construction, and internal surfaces in areas in direct contact with pigs must be of materials that can be readily cleaned and disinfected.

2.4. The centre must have facilities for veterinary examination of animals, the collection of samples, and for the segregation and isolation of sick animals under investigation.

2.5. Semen must be processed in a room or building designated as a laboratory and set aside for that purpose, separate from areas where animals are housed and where semen is collected. This facility must be cleaned and disinfected before use.

#### **3. APPROVAL**

3.1. The centre must be approved by the Supervising Official Veterinarian prior to the commencement of each period of collection of semen for export to New Zealand according to the requirements of this standard.

3.2. In the case of centres located in countries which are not approved by MAF as being free from porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS):

3.2.1. The centre must have a documented absence from evidence of PRRS for a minimum period of 12 months immediately prior to collection of semen for export.

3.2.2. The centre must have never used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine.

3.2.3. All pigs in the centre must have completed a minimum 30 day period of isolation in a facility which meets the physical requirements detailed in sections 1 and 2 above (isolation may occur in the centre itself during a period of approval of the centre).

3.2.4. During the isolation period, each pig must be tested for PRRS using an approved multi-valent ELISA on two occasions, at the start of the isolation period and no less than 30 days subsequently, with a negative result in each case.

3.2.5. Demonstration of continuing freedom from PRRS requires that at intervals of no more than 180 days a survey using an approved multi-valent ELISA must be conducted within every herd of pigs in the centre, with negative results. For the purpose of this survey, a herd is a group of pigs housed such that an internal air-space is shared on a daily basis. In herds of up to 50 pigs, all pigs must be tested. In herds of more than 50 pigs, 50 randomly selected pigs must be tested. (This number of pigs to be tested is sufficient to give 99% confidence of detecting at least one infected pig, assuming 10% prevalence and 90% test sensitivity).

3.2.6. Any other facility where pigs are kept within a distance of 3 kms to the centre must have demonstrated PRRS freedom to a technical equivalence with this standard.

#### **4. OPERATION**

4.1. Disease testing, semen collection and semen processing and storage must be supervised by the Supervising Official Veterinarian.

4.2. Personnel attending the pigs must change outer clothing and footwear, and wash thoroughly, before entering the facility and handling the animals. Personnel processing semen must be trained in, and practice, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.

4.3. All equipment used in the feeding, handling and treatment of the pigs at the centre must be new or cleaned and disinfected before use and must be dedicated to use on the animals on the centre for the duration of the collection period.

4.4. All equipment used to collect, process and store the semen which comes into contact with the donor pigs or the semen must be new and disposable or cleaned and disinfected before and between uses.

4.5. Semen must be stored in a secure area within the centre .

4.6. The centre must have procedures for monitoring and investigating clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease in animals on the centre which ensure health problems are promptly reported to the Supervising Official Veterinarian.

4.7. A record must be kept by the operator and/or the export agent detailing identification of all pigs on the centre and their origins, dates of entry, dates and results of disease tests or investigations, treatments either therapeutic or prophylactic, any departures from good health and condition, inspection visits by the Supervising Official Veterinarian and any other information relevant to each animal's health status while it resident on the centre.

4.8. There must be no unauthorised access to the centre and all visitors must be logged.