

Date: 10 December 2009

Dear Stakeholder

**MAF Biosecurity New Zealand – Risk Profile change:
Sea Containers from the Pacific Islands**

MAF Biosecurity (MAFBNZ) is tasked to manage biosecurity risks associated with various import pathways to New Zealand. The sea freight industry is a vital component of our supply chain, with sea containers attracting a large component of MAFBNZ inspection resource because of their ability to transport pests and diseases.

MAFBNZ creates profiles to target areas of higher biosecurity risk. From time to time MAFBNZ will react to changes in import pathways by adding, changing or withdrawing these profiles. MAFBNZ records indicate that sea containers from Pacific Island countries are repeatedly found with high levels of biosecurity contamination.

As a result, MAFBNZ formally advised industry that we would introduce 'interim' profiles from June 2009, and that these would again be reviewed in December 2009.

MAFBNZ has now reviewed these profiles, resulting in changes to the on arrival MAFBNZ inspection regimes of sea containers from the following countries, effective 1 March 2010, as follows;

Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna; the current high risk profiles will remain unchanged in that 100% of loaded and empty containers will receive a 6-sided MAFBNZ inspection on arrival, unless an approved equivalent system is in place.

Tonga, Cook Islands and Kiribati; will be added to the high risk country profiles resulting in loaded and empty containers requiring a 6-sided MAFBNZ inspection on arrival.

Fiji, American Samoa, French Polynesia, Christmas Island, Guam, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Northern Marianas, Micronesia, New Caledonia, Niue, Tokelau, and Tuvalu; 10% of empty containers will require a 6 sided MAFBNZ inspection on arrival.*

All MAFBNZ inspections will be cost recovered.

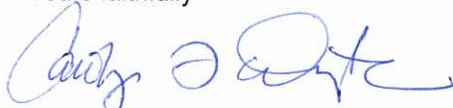
*Where contamination above designated thresholds is found, a Biosecurity Inspector will either;

- Direct the remainder of the consignment for MAF treatment on the port of discharge,
- Inspect the remaining consignment,
- In some instances a combination of both

These profiles will be formally reviewed every year, but ongoing monitoring may result in more frequent revisions of inspection rates.

For options on equivalent systems, please contact Megan Brown (09) 909 8653 or Grant Weston (09) 909 5003.

Yours faithfully



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