

28 March 2008

REF: AE-AU 09L

Dear MAF approved veterinarians (to certify dogs and cats to Australia)

Timeframe removed for *leishmania* spp. testing

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) have recently informed MAF Biosecurity New Zealand of a change to the importing requirements for dogs that have not been continuously resident in New Zealand since birth or since importation from Australia.

As you are aware, from September 2007, such dogs require leishmaniasis testing within 30 days of export. Although this testing is still required, the 30-day timeframe has been removed. Therefore you will need to strike-out the words 'within 30 days' in clause 4 (iii) when completing export certificates for dogs that require leishmaniasis testing (refer to example below). Please write your initials by this change on the export certificate.

...iii) the dog was tested for *Leishmania* species ~~within 30 days~~ prior to export by an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) or an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), with negative test results.

This change is effective immediately.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karen Sparrow'.

Signed: Karen Sparrow
Manager, Exports
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MAF Biosecurity New Zealand

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