

20 July 2000

## **MAF BIOSECURITY STANDARD FOR APPOINTING SUPERVISORS OF ANIMAL QUARANTINE AND CONTAINMENT**

### **Scope**

1. This standard sets out MAF Biosecurity's requirements for appointing supervisors of animal quarantine and containment. Its purpose is to increase the pool of people that MQS can use to deliver the service of supervision.
2. This standard applies to all supervisors of animal quarantine and containment, whether they are MAF employees, state sector employees or not.
3. This standard supplements the requirements for either supervisors or veterinary officers that are set out in the MAF Animal Biosecurity 154 series of standards.

### **References**

4. Biosecurity Act 1993
5. New organism provisions of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
6. Animal Welfare Act 1999
7. MAF Animal Biosecurity 154 series of standards for transitional and containment facilities, approved under section 39 of the Biosecurity Act, and their accompanying supervision standards.
8. Import health standards approved under section 22 of the Biosecurity Act.
9. Other MAF Biosecurity and MQS policies, standards and procedures relating to the appointment of supervisors.

### **Definitions**

10. Animal includes vertebrates, invertebrates and micro-organisms.
11. MAF Biosecurity means the Biosecurity Authority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
12. MQS means the Quarantine Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
13. Supervision means the inspection of and intervention in animal transitional and containment facilities and the risk goods that are held in them to ensure compliance with the Biosecurity Act requirements.
14. Supervisor means an inspector appointed under section 103(1) and authorised under section 126(1) of the Biosecurity Act to supervise animal transitional and containment facilities and the risk goods that are in them.

## System Requirements

15. The supervision of animal quarantine and containment in New Zealand is a core government service and MQS is the only supplier of that service. Only MQS can apply to MAF Biosecurity for appointment of supervisors.
16. Before applying for a supervisor to be appointed, MQS shall:
  - a. be satisfied that the candidate has demonstrated competence in the skills and knowledge listed in this standard and in the relevant supervision standards
  - b. assess the candidate for suitability, including an on-site visit to the candidate and to at least one facility for which they will be responsible.

MAF Biosecurity will recognise as having the necessary skills and knowledge for appointment under this standard people who are supervisors at the date this standard is approved and people who were supervisors for MAF Quality Management at 30 November 1998.

17. If a candidate is not a state sector employee, MAF Biosecurity shall notify the Minister for Biosecurity of the proposed appointment. This requirement shall cease when the Biosecurity Act is amended to clarify that inspectors may but need not be state sector employees.
18. Successful candidates shall be appointed as an inspector pursuant to section 103(1) of the Biosecurity Act who is authorised pursuant to section 126(1) to supervise animal transitional and containment facilities. Appointment shall in writing and signed by a chief technical officer under the Biosecurity Act.
19. If a candidate is not a state sector employee, they shall be appointed as an inspector only during the periods when supervision is required.

## Skills and Knowledge

Skills and Knowledge	How demonstrated
<p><b><i>Having a regulatory role</i></b> The supervisor must demonstrate understanding of the differences between a regulatory role and other professional and commercial relationships, and that they have the skills to manage a regulatory episode.</p> <p><b><i>Control</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The supervisor is in control (compared to advising or providing a fee for service).</li> <li>• Everyone rules must abide by the rules.</li> <li>• The supervisor must have the cooperation of the operator and staff of the facility.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Responsibilities when using statutory powers</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of a statutory decision-maker and the difference between lines of control and that role.</li> <li>• The general grounds by which a decision can be challenged, (including unfairness, illegality and unreasonableness).</li> <li>• The process by which an inspector's decision may be reviewed.</li> <li>• The concept of conflict of interest in relation to supervision and steps that might be taken to manage it.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statement from applicant that they are familiar with chapters two and three Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinarians issued by the Veterinary Council of New Zealand</li> </ul> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of written exercises</li> </ul> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful participation in practical exercises.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Biosecurity Act 1993</i></b> The supervisor must demonstrate that they understand the provisions of the Biosecurity Act relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part III: Importation of Risk Goods, sections 16 – 41</li> <li>• Appointment of inspectors, accredited persons and their powers, sections 101-103 and 106 – 128</li> <li>• Miscellaneous, sections 162A – 164B</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of written exercises</li> </ul> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful participation in practical exercises.</li> </ul>

<b>Skills and Knowledge</b>	<b>How demonstrated</b>
<p>The supervisor shall also be able to describe how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• seize something</li> <li>• issue a direction</li> <li>• issue a biosecurity clearance pursuant to the Biosecurity Act.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><i>Principles of certification</i></b>  The supervisor must demonstrate knowledge of Government and OIE principles of certification.</p>	<p>Statement from the applicant that they are familiar with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• chapters two and three of the Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinarians.</li> <li>• chapter 1.3.2, Principles of Certification, of Part 1 of the International Animal Health Code of the Organisation Internationale de Epizooties (<a href="http://www.oie.int/Norms/MCode/A_summry.htm">http://www.oie.int/Norms/MCode/A_summry.htm</a>).</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Principles of quarantine</i></b>  The supervisor must demonstrate understanding of the principles of quarantine (including pre-export isolation):</p> <p><i>Purpose of quarantine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To detect or confirm the absence of pests and diseases.</li> <li>• To contain, deal with or exclude pests and diseases as required by a standard. The chief technical officer must approve any treatments.</li> </ul> <p><i>Quarantine hygiene</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing may come out of the facility that shouldn't.</li> </ul> <p><i>What should happen if</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an animal has died</li> <li>• an animal is sick</li> <li>• there is any other emergency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of written exercises <i>plus</i></li> <li>• Successful participation in practical exercises.</li> </ul>

<p><b><i>Implications if quarantine is not managed effectively</i></b></p> <p>The supervisor must demonstrate that they understand the implications if supervision is not carried out correctly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Zealand has to deal with the incursion of the exotic pest or disease.</li> <li>• New Zealand’s international reputation is endangered, affecting market access for New Zealand exports.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statement from the applicant that they are familiar with chapters two and three of the Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinariansp</li> </ul> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of written exercises</li> </ul> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful participation in practical exercises.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Quality systems</i></b></p> <p>The supervisor must demonstrate that they understand the principles of ISO 9000:2000 sufficiently well to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• judge whether or not a facility’s quality system will maintain quarantine</li> <li>• set up their own and operate MQS quality systems effectively.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of recognised course on ISO 9000: 2000 principles and audit skills</li> </ul> <p><i>or</i></p> <p>written statement from the candidate that they operate quality systems in accordance with the principles of ISO 9000</p> <p><i>plus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of quality systems of the candidate and facility to be supervised during the site visit.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Species knowledge</i></b></p> <p>The supervisor must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• differentiate between normal and abnormal conditions in the species being supervised</li> <li>• recognise pests and diseases of the species being supervised that do not occur in New Zealand</li> <li>• perform a necropsy and assess gross pathology, if the standard requires it</li> <li>• take samples and send them to the appropriate laboratory in accordance with the appropriate standards</li> <li>• recognise potential escape routes for the organism and any associated organisms that are of concern and describe preventative measures</li> <li>• carry out a clinical examination / diagnosis</li> <li>• carry out humane euthanasia</li> <li>• carry out quarantine disinfection and fumigation</li> <li>• assess the welfare of animals being quarantined</li> <li>• demonstrate familiarity with good practice in animal husbandry and record keeping techniques for the industry.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal statement of clinical experience with the species being supervised, except in the case of novel species, supported of references from peers.</li> </ul> <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For novel species, MAF will accept the availability of reference texts or an arrangement with a specialist in the species.</li> </ul>

<p><b><i>Knowledge of IATA requirements</i></b> The supervisor must demonstrate that they are familiar with the IATA Live Animal Regulations.</p>	<p>Written statement from the candidate that they have access to a current version and are familiar with the IATA Live Animal Regulations.</p>
<p><b><i>Computer capability</i></b> The supervisor must be able to send and receive email over the internet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of electronic mail.</li> <li>• Practical test, candidate to initiate an email and reply to an email.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Knowledge of relevant standards</i></b></p> <p><i>Import health standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the purpose of an import health standard.</li> <li>• Identify those sections of a relevant import health standard that might be used during quarantine.</li> </ul> <p><i>Section 39 facility standards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the purpose of a section 39 facility standard.</li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of all parts of a relevant section 39 standard.</li> <li>• If a relevant section 39 standard refers to another standard, be able to identify the relevant provisions of the other standard.</li> </ul>	<p>Supervisor to develop an action plan, using the relevant import health standard and section 39 facility standard for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before arrival of a shipment</li> <li>• As a shipment arrives</li> <li>• During a period of quarantine</li> <li>• Prior to biosecurity clearance being given.</li> </ul> <p>Action plan to be assessed during site visit.</p>
<p><b><i>Animal Welfare Act 1999, Part 6</i></b> The supervisor must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognise when a test is captured by Part 6 of the Animal Welfare Act (sentinel animals are used)</li> <li>• demonstrate knowledge of the process that has to be gone through before the test can be carried out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful completion of written exercises <i>plus</i></li> <li>• Successful participation in practical exercises.</li> </ul>