



Ref: CTO 2015 071 [G]

**Hides and Skins: Waste Disposal**

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of waste associated with hides and skins.**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for waste associated with hides and skins to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard Hides and Skins [*HIDESKIN.ALL dated 7 August 2015*]:

The following clauses in Schedule 3 (Processing requirements at the transitional facility) state:

- Clause 4: The facility operator must ensure that all trimmings and solid waste associated with hides and skins are treated, destroyed or disposed of at an approved transitional facility by rendering or incineration.
- Clause 5: The facility operator must ensure that all packaging which has been in contact with hides and skins is destroyed or disposed of at an approved transitional facility by incineration.

The import risk analysis (IRA) hides and skins from specified animals (dated April 2008) considered anthrax and foot and mouth disease (FMD) to be the highest risks associated hides and skins, and concluded rendering or incineration would effectively manage these risks organisms.

The import health standard requires offshore measures for anthrax and FMD. Freedom or treatment for these two diseases is attested to on a veterinary certificate. Thus, other waste disposal measures can be considered to manage waste associated with imported hides and skins.

Trimmings and solid waste associated with hides and skins and all packaging which has been in contact with hides and skins may be treated or disposed of in the following manner at an approved transitional facility:

- heat treatment (i.e. steam sterilisation, autoclaving) at a temperature of at least 120°C for at least 10 minutes; or
- deep burial.

The heat treatment described above has been found to destroy anthrax spores. All other disease organisms are more sensitive than anthrax spores to these thermal conditions; hence, MPI considers these conditions to effectively manage the risks associated with hides and skins.

Deep burial is an appropriate waste disposal method for a range of animal products (e.g. fibre). MPI considers deep burial to effectively manage the risks associated with hides and skins.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.

**Regulation and Assurance**

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