

**IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF CARIBBEAN FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*) AND GREATER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopterus ruber roseus*) HATCHING EGGS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA AND CANADA INTO NEW ZEALAND FOR ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS**

1. IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this is the import health standard for the importation of Caribbean flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*) and Greater flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber roseus*) hatching eggs from the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada into New Zealand for zoological gardens.

2. PERMIT TO IMPORT

2.1 A import permit is required for the importation of Caribbean flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*) and Greater flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber roseus*) hatching eggs into New Zealand.

This permit may be obtained from:

Director of Animal Biosecurity  
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington  
NEW ZEALAND

2.2 The import permit will be issued for a single consignment.

2.3 Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard that describes the conditions under which the flamingo hatching eggs may be imported into New Zealand.

3. INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER

The importer shall supply the following information:

- 3.1 name and address of exporter
- 3.2 number and species of eggs
- 3.3 date of the proposed importation
- 3.4 name and address of the post-arrival quarantine facility in New Zealand, approved under *MAFRA Standard 154.02.05 Medium Security Avian Quarantine Facilities*

- 3.5 letter from the New Zealand Veterinary Officer supervising post-arrival quarantine, according to *MAFRA Standard 154.02.05.01 Supervision of Avian Quarantine*, indicating the facility complies with *MAFRA Standard 154.02.05 Medium Security Avian Quarantine Facilities* and is available for this consignment.
- 3.6 airport of entry into New Zealand and route of transport to the approved medium security avian quarantine facility.

#### 4. REVIEW OF IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

The import health standard may be reviewed and amended if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy, or the animal health status of the exporting country, or for any other reason, at the discretion of the Director of Animal Biosecurity.

#### 5. DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Donor flock:** All the birds eligible under this standard to produce eggs for export.

**Director of Animal Biosecurity:** The Director of Animal Biosecurity, 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 Director of Animal Biosecurity.

**Equivalence:** Acceptance by the Director of Animal Biosecurity 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.

**ICPI:** Intracerebral pathogenicity index

**Official Veterinarian:** A veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of a country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.2 of the OIE International Animal Health Code.

**Veterinary Officer:** A registered veterinarian who is an inspector under the Biosecurity Act employed either by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry or by a supplier contracted to provide services to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### 6. DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

The permit to import, together with all the required information and ORIGINAL certification, which must be in English or a bilingual (language of exporting country/English) form, must accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

The required documentation is completed copies of the following:

- Zoosanitary Certificate
- Veterinary Certificate A
- Veterinary Certificate B

[Note: Any requirement for the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) or other conservation related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer and is independent of this certification.]

## 7. IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 All costs associated with the importation, including selection, pre-export isolation, testing, treatment, transport, quarantine, servicing and veterinary supervision shall be borne by the importer.
- 7.2 The importer shall make all arrangements for transport and obtain necessary transit authorities from any third countries on the transport route. The transport route must be approved by the Director of Animal Biosecurity.
- 7.3 The importer shall give the New Zealand Official Port Veterinarian 7 days notice of the arrival of the eggs, indicating the flight number and expected time of arrival.

## 8. EQUIVALENCE

The import health standard has been agreed as being suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the hatching eggs will meet the conditions in every respect.

Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the importer's control, the hatching eggs do not comply completely with the requirements in this import health standard. In such cases an application for equivalence will be considered and may be issued at the discretion of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, but only if the following information is forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authorities:

- 8.1 Which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred.
- 8.2 The reason the hatching eggs are considered to be of an "equivalent health" status and/or what proposal is made to return the eggs to an equivalent health status as set-out in this standard.
- 8.3 The reasons why the veterinary authorities of the country of origin believe this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

## 9. ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION

- 9.1 The premise of origin must be situated in an area in which no case of Newcastle disease or avian influenza has occurred within a 25 km radius, in the 6 months prior to export.
- 9.2 The birds producing the hatching eggs must have been hatched in the exporting country, or if imported have been free from all quarantine restrictions for at least 6 months.
- 9.3 The zoological garden containing the birds producing the hatching eggs must be registered or licensed by the competent authorities in the country of origin.
- 9.4 The zoological garden must have a programme of routine health checks that are supervised by a government-approved veterinarian.
- 9.5 The eggs must be clean and disinfected in accordance with the OIE International Animal Health Code, 1998 Chapter 4.2.4.1 p 341.
- 9.6 The eggs must be packed so as to prevent spillage and placed into new, or clean and disinfected containers, and sealed using an official tamper proof seal that does not prevent natural airflow, in the presence of a government veterinary officer before dispatch.

## 10. IDENTIFICATION

Each egg in the consignment must be clearly identified using a permanent marking as to dam and, where possible, sire. The markings must be recorded on the Zoosanitary certification.

## 11. VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATION

- 11.1 The animal health tests required are stated in Veterinary Certificate A.
- 11.2 A random sample of the donor birds producing hatching eggs must complete the testing requirements. The laboratory samples must be tested individually, ie they must not be pooled.
- 11.3 All tests must be conducted at a government laboratory or government-approved laboratory.
- 11.4 Positive laboratory test results must be reported immediately to the New Zealand Director of Animal Biosecurity for a decision regarding the fate of the consignment.

## 12. BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

- 12.1 On arrival in New Zealand and provided the documentation is in order, a Biosecurity direction will be issued by an Inspector under sections 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 allowing the hatching eggs to move to the quarantine facility named on the import permit.

## 13. TRANSPORT

- 13.1 The hatching eggs must be transported from the port of arrival to the medium security avian quarantine facility named on the import permit, by a method and route approved by the Director of Animal Biosecurity.
- 13.2 The vehicle must not transport any other birds or hatching eggs while being used to transport the eggs to the quarantine facility. The vehicle and containers must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with an approved virucidal disinfectant after delivery of the eggs. All packing must be destroyed by incineration.

## 14. POST-ARRIVAL QUARANTINE

- 14.1 The post-arrival avian quarantine facility must be approved under *MAFRA Standard 154.02.05 Medium Security Avian Quarantine Facilities*, and supervised according to *MAFRA Standard 154.02.05.01 Supervision of Avian Quarantine*.
- 14.2 Removal of dead birds or avian tissues from the quarantine facility for laboratory examination must be under the supervision of a veterinary officer, so that the principles of disease containment are maintained. All tissue samples must be sent to the New Zealand Animal Health Laboratory (NZAHL) for testing.

14.2.1 All eggs that fail to hatch must be submitted for virus culture.

14.2.2 Any illness or deaths in the hatchlings must be fully investigated by an experienced veterinary pathologist. Where the cause of death can not be determined, virus isolation must be performed.

The Director of Animal Biosecurity may require additional testing. All costs will be borne by the importer.

- 14.3 The hatchlings must be reared in the quarantine facility for at least 60 days, or for a longer period if required to by the Director of Animal Biosecurity. No hatchlings shall be released until the youngest has completed the 60 day quarantine.

- 14.4 When the youngest flamingo is 42 days of age, all the birds shall be subjected to the following tests:
- 14.4.1 Viral culture of cloacal and choanal swabs from each bird for isolation of influenza A viruses and paramyxoviruses. Note: samples must be put into viral transport media and culture methods must be those specified in the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines 1996. Chapters 2.1.14 and 2.1.15. All isolates must be identified.
- If paramyxovirus 1 is isolated, its ICPI must be determined and if it is greater than zero the birds will not be eligible for release from quarantine.
- 14.4.2 *Salmonella* culture using a cloacal swab from each bird cultured in a simple media, a *Salmonella* selective media and an enrichment media (OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines 1996. Chapters X.4 ) All isolates must be serotyped.
- 14.4.3 *Mycoplasma* culture using a tracheal/choanal cleft swab from each bird. Samples must be put into *Mycoplasma* transport media and cultured using a *Mycoplasma* media. All isolates must be identified.
- 14.5 Positive results obtained during quarantine testing must be reported to the Director of Animal Biosecurity for a decision on the fate of the consignment. The fate of the consignment shall be one of the following options:
- either 14.5.1 the birds will either be re-exported at the importer's expense,  
or 14.5.2 the birds will be subject to further testing, treatment and an extended quarantine period at the importer's expense,  
or 14.5.3 the birds will be destroyed at the importer's expense.
- 14.6 The birds from the hatching eggs and their offspring shall remain permanently in a registered zoo, and can only be transferred to another zoo with the prior permission of the Director of Animal Biosecurity.



## VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A

I, ....., being the Official Veterinarian responsible for the health of the flamingo flock producing the hatching eggs, certify after due enquiry with respect to the donor flock and the hatching eggs identified in the zoosanitary certificate that:

### 1. PREMISES OF ORIGIN

1.1 The flamingos producing the hatching eggs:

either 1.1.1 were hatched in and continuously resident in the zoological garden

or 1.1.2 if imported, have been resident in the zoological garden for at least a period of 6 months.

In this case the birds were imported from .....  
and officially released from import quarantine on .....

(Delete 1.1.1 or 1.1.2 as appropriate)

1.2 From the time the donor flock was sampled for the health tests associated with this Standard, they have been kept isolated from all other birds not of an equivalent health status.

1.3 The zoological garden containing the flamingos is registered or licensed by the competent authorities in the country of origin.

1.4 The zoological garden has a programme of routine health checks that are supervised by a government-approved veterinarian.

### 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC DISEASES OF CONCERN

2.1 During the previous 12 months there has been no evidence in the donor flock of avian influenza virus, Newcastle disease virus, Group I avian adenoviruses, egg drop syndrome 76, avian encephalomyelitis, avian reovirus, chicken infectious anaemia virus, and avian leucosis/sarcoma virus.

2.2 The premise of origin is situated in an area in which no case of Newcastle disease or avian influenza has occurred within a 25 km radius, in the 6 months prior to export.

2.3 The donor flock not been vaccinated with live virus against Newcastle disease or avian influenza.

- 2.4 There has been no clinical evidence of salmonellosis or mycoplasmosis in the donor flock in the previous 12 months.
- 2.5 To enable successful pairing and subsequent egg production, the laboratory testing of the donor birds took place within 126 days prior to the collection of eggs.

A random sample of the birds in the donor flamingo flock were individually tested. The number of birds in the sample was sufficient to detect a 5% level of infection with a 99% probability (For appropriate sample size see 'Notes for interpretation', Appendix I.) Results for the following tests were all negative.

- 2.5.1 Paramyxoviruses and avian influenza using culture of cloacal and choanal swabs from each bird for isolation of influenza A viruses and paramyxoviruses. Samples were put into viral transport media and cultured using methods specified in the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines 1996. Chapters 2.1.14 and 2.1.15. All isolates were identified.

(If paramyxovirus 1 is isolated, its ICPI will need to be determined and if it is greater than zero the importation will be cancelled.)

Date samples taken: .....

- 2.5.2 *Salmonella* species using a cloacal swab for each bird cultured in a simple media, a *Salmonella* selective media and on enrichment media.(OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines 1996. Chapter X.4 ) All isolates were serotyped.

Date samples taken: .....

- 2.5.3 *Mycoplasma* species using a choanal cleft swab from each bird. Samples were put into *Mycoplasma* transport media and cultured using a *Mycoplasma* media. All isolates were identified.

Date samples taken: .....

- 2.5.4 All testing was conducted at a government laboratory or government-approved laboratory.

- 2.5.5 Any positive test results were reported immediately to the New Zealand Director of Animal Biosecurity for a decision regarding the fate of the consignment.

- 2.6 The donor birds were inspected at the time of egg collection and were found to be free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.

3. TRANSPORT TO THE PORT OF DEPARTURE

- 3.1 Only visually clean eggs were selected and fumigated using formaldehyde gas generated according to OIE International Animal Health Code, 1998 Chapter 4.2.4.1 p 341.
- 3.2 The eggs must be packed so as to prevent spillage and placed into new, or clean and disinfected containers, and sealed using an official tamper proof seal that does not prevent natural airflow, in the presence of a government veterinary officer before dispatch.
- 3.3 The vehicle in which the hatching eggs will be transported from the premises of origin to the port of departure was cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using an officially approved virucidal disinfectant.

.....  
Official Veterinarian

.....  
Official stamp and date

.....  
.....  
.....  
Address of office

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE - B

I....., being a Port Veterinary Officer of the Government Veterinary Authority certify in regard to the hatching eggs described in the zoosanitary certificate A that:

1. TRANSPORT TO THE AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE

1.1 During transport to the airport of departure, the hatching eggs were kept isolated from birds or eggs that are not of an equivalent health status.

2. TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

2.1 The integrity of the official seals was maintained throughout transportation between the premises of origin and loading onto the aircraft.

2.2 No animals, birds or eggs other than those destined for New Zealand are being carried on the aircraft.

.....  
Official Veterinarian

.....  
Official stamp and date

.....  
Address of office

## **Appendix I: Notes for Interpretation**

Sample size to be 99% confident of detecting the presence of a disease with a prevalence of 5%, using a test with 95% sensitivity.

Flocks containing fewer than 65 birds, all the birds in the flock must be tested.

Flocks containing between 66 and 100 birds, 65 birds in the flock must be tested.

Flocks containing between 101 and 200 birds, 80 birds in the flock must be tested.

Flocks containing between 201 and 600 birds, 90 birds in the flock must be tested.

Flocks containing over 600 birds 95 birds in the flock must be tested.

Note: sampling must be random.