



Ref: CTO 2013 023

Catgut: BSE

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of catgut suture of bovine origin.

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Angela Snell, Senior Adviser, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for catgut suture to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard (surcatic.all):

Catgut may be sourced from countries which present negligible or controlled Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), according to the OIE Code, if accompanied by a manufacturer's declaration indicating that the product is ovine or bovine in origin and composed of purified connective tissue derived from the serosal layer of the intestine from which distal ileum has been discarded.

The product may be processed in a country of unknown BSE status when a manufacturer's declaration is provided that there has been no cross contamination or substitution of the catgut from a BSE negligible or controlled country.

The risk of BSE from a BSE controlled country is managed by the removal of the distal ileum (Stuart McDiarmid - Lauren Dunn comms 2009).

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

Signed at Wellington this 30th day of August 2013.

Angela Snell DVM
Senior Adviser, Animal Imports
Ministry for Primary Industries
(Acting under delegated authority)