



Ref: CTO 2017 040 [G]

Invertebrates: Malaghan Institute of Medical Research

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to *Caenorhabditis elegans* non-parasitic free living worms in culture medium imported by Malaghan Institute of Medical Research only

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Lucy Johnston, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for *Caenorhabditis elegans* non-parasitic free living worm in culture medium in relation to the *Import Health Standard: Invertebrates into New Zealand* (INVNONIC.ALL):

Clause 11.1

Clause 11.1 of INVNONIC.ALL states:

- 11.1 *Following biosecurity authorisation being given, the container must proceed to the approved registered transitional facility which must be operated according to the MAF Standard 154.02.08: Transitional and containment facility for invertebrates.*

Following a biosecurity authorisation, the container(s) containing *Caenorhabditis elegans* non-parasitic free living worms in culture medium must proceed to the approved transitional facility which must be operated according to the MPI / EPA standard 154.03.02 (Facilities for Microorganisms and Cell Cultures: 2007a) at Physical Containment Level 2.

Malaghan Institute of Medical Research is not approved to the transitional facility standard stated in the import health standard. However, *Caenorhabditis elegans* are small in size, relatively immobile, and would not be capable of escaping from the transitional facility without assistance. It is not intended that these be released from the transitional facility. If they are to be released from the transitional facility, evidence from a recognised expert that the above listed imported invertebrates are the same species as described on the import permit. This expert will also need to provide evidence that the above listed invertebrates are not diseased and are not carrying any associated organisms. This evidence would also need to be assessed by a subject matter expert within the Ministry for Primary Industries.

The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risks associated with this commodity have been assessed and are managed effectively.

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