



Ref: CTO 2018 018 [1]

Dogs: Non-compliant with rabies requirements

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to two NZ-origin dogs returning from Canada

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 two dogs, microchip numbers 982 000 356 431 706 ('Blair') and 982 000 365 650 652 ('Watson') to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable Import Health Standard for Cats and Dogs (CATDOG.GEN 2018):

Equivalence from clauses 1.1.1 (Eligibility) and 2.1 (Rabies) in the IHS that respectively state the requirements for NZ-origin animals returning to New Zealand in less than six-months, and the standard rabies requirements for import.

'Blair' and 'Watson' were vaccinated in New Zealand on 9 March 2018 and had samples for the rabies neutralising antibody titre test (RNATT) taken on 2 April 2018 prior to export to Canada on 3 April 2018. Although results of the RNAT tests were not received prior to export, both dogs had a satisfactory antibody titre response equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml. Therefore, both dogs demonstrated adequate protection against rabies infection prior to export from New Zealand.

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.