



Ref: CTO 2014 055 [G]

## Bee Products: Clearance Conditions

### CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of bee products from all countries.

Replaces CTO directions 2014 017, 2013 095 and 2013 068

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 bee products to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard for Specified Processed Bee Products BEEPROIC.ALL:

#### Replaces Clause 2.6

The Import Health Standard for specified bee products from Australia was suspended in 2009. Bee product imports into New Zealand from all countries are regulated using this import health standard.

#### Replaces Clause 5.1

The following products require a permit to import:

- 5.1.1 Bulk untreated bee products not packaged in consumer-ready packaging and containing more than 2% honey, pollen, propolis or royal jelly for further processing at a suitable transitional facility
- 5.1.2 Medical preparations containing more than 50% honey by weight

Guidance: Samples of honey and other bee products imported for evaluation and subsequent destruction at transitional facilities fall under the import health standard for biological specimens, BIOPRODIC.ALL available at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/plants/standards/bioprodic.all.htm>

#### Replaces Clause 6.3

It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining [biosecurity direction](#) and/or [biosecurity clearance](#) or rejection of consignments.

#### Replaces Clause 7.2

Refined beeswax may be given biosecurity clearance provided that the product is:

- i. From Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga or Tuvalu and accompanied by a Zoosanitary Certification issued by the veterinary authority of that country certifying that
  - a. the beeswax comes from that country; and
  - b. the country is free from European Foulbrood caused by *Melissococcus pluton*.Or
- ii. From any other country and accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) that identifies the product and certifies that the beeswax has been heated to at least 60 degrees Celsius for 2 hours and clarified.

Guidance: The beeswax may be in blocks which are not commercially packaged but it must be clear to an Inspector that the Manufacturer's Declaration relates to the consignment of beeswax.

#### Replaces Clauses 7.3.2 ii

The product must be:

- a. In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and royal jelly in personal consignments is 2% or less of the total product weight; or
- b. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration certifying that the product contains no more than 2% honey; or
- c. A personal consignment of nougat; or
- d. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the product contains no more than 50% honey and that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the following heat treatments in which the core temperature has reached:
  - i. 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
  - ii. 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
  - iii. 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
  - iv. 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
  - v. 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
  - vi. 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.
 Or
- e. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the honey has been immersed in an ethanol solution of at least 40%; or
- f. Accompanied by a permit to import.

#### Replaces Clause 7.4.2 iii

The product must be:

- a. Packaged in consumer-ready packages for direct retail sale; or
- b. In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of propolis in *personal consignments* is less than 2% of the total product weight; or
- c. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the product contains no more than 2% propolis; or
- d. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the propolis has been extracted from or immersed in ethanol solutions of at least 40%; or
- e. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the propolis has undergone one of the following heat treatments in which the core temperature has reached:
  - i. 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
  - ii. 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
  - iii. 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
  - iv. 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
  - v. 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
  - vi. 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.
 Or
- f. Accompanied by a permit to import.
  - i. Bulk propolis for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf>). Bulk untreated propolis must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk propolis must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those

capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

#### Replaces Clause 7.4.3 ii

The product must be:

- a. Encapsulated (completely covered by an edible substance that does not contain sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly, such as gelatin or wax) and packaged in consumer-ready packages for direct retail sale; or
- b. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) stating that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly; or
- c. In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and royal jelly in *personal consignments* is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
- d. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the following heat treatments in which the core temperature has reached:
  - i. 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
  - ii. 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
  - iii. 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
  - iv. 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
  - v. 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
  - vi. 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.
 Or
- e. Accompanied by a permit to import.
  - i. Bulk bee products for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf>). Bulk untreated bee products must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk product must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

#### Replaces Clause 7.4.4 ii

The product must be:

- a. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) stating that the product contains no more than 2% honey, pollen or royal jelly; or
- b. In manufactured packaging clearly indicating that the total amount of honey, bee pollen and royal jelly in *personal consignments* is no more than 2% of the total product weight; or
- c. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) certifying that the bee product ingredient has undergone one of the following heat treatments in which the core temperature has reached:
  - i. 65°C for a minimum of 8 hours; or
  - ii. 70°C for a minimum of 1 hour and 48 minutes; or
  - iii. 80°C for a minimum of 22 minutes; or
  - iv. 82°C for a minimum of 20 minutes; or
  - v. 90°C or more for a minimum of 5 minutes; or
  - vi. 130°C or more for a minimum of 1 second.
 Or
- d. Accompanied by a Manufacturer's Declaration (prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper, dated within the last 12 months and signed by the quality manager or equivalent) specifying that the product contains no more than 50 percent liquid honey and that the bee product ingredient has undergone radiation treatment at a rate of at least 15 kGy. This includes products such as toothpaste,

- cosmetics and medical preparations that are topically applied. Products for human consumption such as cough syrup and throat lozenges may not be irradiated; or
- e. Accompanied by a permit to import.
    - i. Bulk bee product ingredients for further processing must be directed to a bee-proof transitional facility under the standard MPI-STD-TFGEN, Annex F (General transitional facility for Uncleared Goods, applying to Clause 5.8 of the Standard for Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/stds/bnz-std-tfgen.pdf>). Bulk untreated bee products must be held in an insect proof area as detailed in the facility manual/quality system. The bulk product must be encapsulated at the transitional facility listed on the permit. The outer layer of those capsules must not contain any substance that is attractive to bees- including, but not limited to sugar, fruit, honey, pollen or royal jelly.

The reasons for these amendments are to clarify import and border clearance requirements. The risk of importation of *Melissococcus Plutonium* is effectively managed by the measures taken in this Direction.

The goods given clearance by this CTO direction are bee products and goods containing honey and other bee products as a percentage of the imported good.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in BEEPROIC.ALL is that consignments containing bee products and bee products as a percentage of a commodity are eligible in this Standard, honey samples for biological testing are to be imported using the Import Health Standard BIOPRODIC.ALL, the 2009 Import Health Standard for Australian Honey has been revoked, original documents are no longer necessary for border clearance, times and temperatures of treatment to eliminate *Melissococcus Plutonium* as a contaminant of bee products are specified (faxed and emailed copies are acceptable), direction of bulk bee products to bee-proof transitional facilities for packaging into consumer-ready packages is allowed, beeswax from selected Pacific Islands may be imported with the specified documentation, bee products extracted or immersed in 40% alcohol may be imported, and products containing more than 50% honey require a permit to import. The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

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