

**OMARs with an uncertain status**

These OMARs have not been used for a significant period of time. Therefore the requirements may have changed without the Ministry for Primary Industries knowledge.

If an exporter can provide the current import conditions, and the requirements still match, the certificate and the OMARs will be moved back into the published list of export certificates and OMAR's.

# **Overseas Market Access Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999 – MAF Biosecurity New Zealand**

Ref: AE-CR24L

Date: 6 June 2008

## **OMAR B OVIEMBEC.CRI 06.06.08 - Ovine Embryos to Costa Rica**

### **1. Statutory authority**

Pursuant to section 60 of the Animal Products Act 1999: I notify the following overseas market access requirements, entitled:

(i) I notify the following overseas market access requirements, entitled:  
ovine embryos to Costa Rica.

This notice takes effect from date of signing.

Dated at Wellington this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 2008.

Signed: Karen Sparrow  
Exports Manager  
Border Standards  
MAF Biosecurity New Zealand  
(pursuant to delegated authority)

### **2. Costa Rica Requirements**

Ovine embryos exported from New Zealand to Costa Rica must comply with the import requirements of Costa Rica listed in this notice as follows:

2.1 An import permit is required for the exportation of ovine embryos from New Zealand to Costa Rica.

2.2 An official veterinarian authorised by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, must certify, after due enquiry, the following:

2.2.1 New Zealand is officially free of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease (without vaccination), peste des petits ruminants, sheep & goat pox, Rift Valley fever, ovine & caprine brucellosis (*Brucella melitensis*), contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, bluetongue, vesicular stomatitis, maedi-visna, pulmonary adenomatosis (jaagsiekte), and scrapie.

2.2.2 The embryo collection centre is approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2.2.3 The team veterinarian supervising the collection of the embryos for export is approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the collection, processing and storage procedures followed by the collection team were in accordance with the recommendations of Section 3.3, Appendix 3.3.1 of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, 2007 (OIE *Code*), and the *Manual of the International Embryo Transfer Society*, 1998 (IETS *Manual*).

2.2.4 The embryo processing unit is approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and is under the supervision of an Official Veterinarian. It fulfils the recommendations for the collection and manipulation of ovine embryos in accordance with the relevant parts of Section 3.3, Appendix 3.3.1 of the OIE *Code*.

2.2.5 The donor animals were part of the ovine population of New Zealand, and were not subject to official prohibition or quarantine measures regarding the control of infectious diseases that affect the ovine species.

2.2.6 No disease listed in Section 2.4 of the OIE *Code* was diagnosed in the female donor animals during the 60 days prior to embryo collection.

2.2.7 On the day of collection, the donor ewes did not present any clinical signs of ovine & caprine brucellosis (*Brucella melitensis*).

2.2.8 The semen, fresh or frozen, used to fertilise the donor ewes was collected at a semen collection centre which is approved by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and complied with the export requirements for ovine semen to Costa Rica.

2.2.9 The embryos were washed in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE *Code* and the IETS *Manual*.

2.2.10 Only embryos of the same donor ewe were washed together.

2.2.11 After the last wash, the embryos were examined microscopically (at a magnification of at least  $\times 50$ ) to determine that the surface and zona pellucida were intact and free from any adherent material.

2.2.12 To ensure proper identification, viability, and freedom of pathogens, the collection, processing and storage of the embryos were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE *Code*, and the IETS *Manual*.

2.2.13 Processing of the embryos took place under standard aseptic conditions, and there was complete separation between clean and dirty areas.

2.2.14 Embryos destined for Costa Rica were not processed and stored with embryos from donors with a lower health status.

2.2.15 All implements and materials used in the processing of the embryos were either single-use disposable, or properly sterilised prior to use.

2.2.16 Each straw contains only embryos from the same donor.

2.2.17 The container used for transporting the ovine embryos to Costa Rica was sealed by an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Seal number and serial number of the container to be recorded on the export certificate.

### **3. Definitions**

For the purposes of this document:

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 and used, but not defined in this document, has the same meaning as in this Act.

#### ***Explanatory note***

*These overseas market access requirements are based on the new export certificate for ovine embryos to Costa Rica dated 6 June 2008 which is based on SENASA's 'Veterinary Requirements for the Importation of Ovine Embryos from New Zealand – AV-54', dated 10 May 2007.*

## **Additional information on OMAR notification – OVIEMBEC.CRI 06.06.08**

1. The embryos should be sent from New Zealand to Costa Rica by the most direct and appropriate route.
2. The box in which the shipping container is transported, should show the following information:
  - a) A list specifying the location of each embryo within the canes and goblets
  - b) Production codes used on the straws in order to allow traceability. The codes and/or lot number should be legible, indelible, and resistant to moisture.

If no box is used, a label should be provided showing the same information.

**Section 61.A of the Animal Products Amendments Act 2005 states that 'The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market'.**