



# Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping

29 May 2019

## **TITLE**

Animal Products Notice: Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 31 May 2019

## **REVOCATION**

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces the Animal Products (Export Requirements – Cats and Dogs) Notice 2012

## **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

This Animal Products Notice is issued under section 167(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999 for the purposes of section 60.

Dated at Wellington, 29 May 2019

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Animal Products Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

This Animal Products Notice is issued under the Animal Products Act 1999 for the purposes of facilitating market access and safeguarding assurances provided by New Zealand for live animal exports.

## Background

This notice specifies requirements for microchipping of cats, dogs, and horses intended for export for identification purposes.

Individual ISO compliant microchips are allocated a unique code that is able to be read with a fit for purpose microchip scanner. An animal implanted with a microchip is able to be uniquely identified for the purposes of verification and certification when scanned.

## Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

This notice applies to any veterinarians, verifiers, or exporters involved with exporting cats, dogs, or horses.

## Why is this important?

Failure to comply with this Notice will result in the cat, dog, or horse not being eligible for export with an official assurance. MPI will not issue an official assurance for the types of animals listed that fails to comply with any provision of this Notice.

## Other information

Exporters should note that having a cat, dog, or horse implanted with a microchip does not automatically qualify them to be issued an official assurance. Microchip implantation facilitates identification for the purposes of verification and certification.

Exporters should note that they must also comply with any other applicable export requirements in order for an official assurance to be given, in particular, the [Animal Products Notice: Official Assurance Specifications for Animal Material and Animal Products](#) and [Animal Products Notice: Export Verification Requirements](#). Also, any agreed importing conditions established with an importing country.

This notice does not contain a list of all prerequisites needed for a cat, dog, or horse to be eligible for export. It is the responsibility of the exporter to ensure familiarity and compliance with the Animal Products Act 1999, and regulations and notices issued under the Act.

New requirements in this notice, relate primarily to the inclusion of horses in the scope of animals required to be microchipped prior to export.

## Part 1: Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This notice applies to the following types of animals that are intended for export to countries for which official assurances for export are required.
  - a) Cats
  - b) Dogs
  - c) Horses

### 1.2 Definitions

- (1) **Microchip transponder** means a microchip transponder that complies with clause 1.3(2)
- (2) **ISO** means International Organisation for Standardisation

### 1.3 Microchip requirements

- (1) Subject to subclause (5), all exporters presenting a cat, dog, or horse for export for which an official assurance is required must ensure that the animal has been implanted with a microchip transponder.
- (2) The microchip transponder required by sub clause (1) must:
  - a) meet the specifications of ISO 11784 or Annex A of ISO Standard 11785; or
  - b) be readable by a microchip reader made available by the exporter or exporter's agent for the purposes of the issuing an official assurance.
- (3) The exporter must ensure that a microchip transponder is implanted in the cat or dog prior to the issuing of any official assurance or other record which is required for export purposes.
- (4) The exporter must ensure that a microchip transponder is implanted in the horse prior to the issuing of any official assurance.
- (5) The exporter is responsible for recording the microchip details appropriately at the time of implantation, and make them readily available to reference for verification and certification purposes.
- (6) Exporters are not required to comply with subclause (1) if:
  - a) the Director-General is satisfied that the cat, dog, or horse to be exported is distinctly and uniquely identifiable such that it can be unmistakably matched to all documentation required for the official assurance; and
  - b) the exporter provides to the person issuing the official assurance a written notification in the form of a waiver detailing the Director-General's decision in subclause (6) paragraph a).

### 1.4 Other Export Requirements

- (1) Compliance with the requirements of this Notice does not exempt an exporter from any applicable requirements imposed by the relevant authority of the importing country.

### 1.5 Transitional Provisions

- (1) Horses being exported are not subject to the requirements of this notice until 1 December 2019.