



Ref: CTO 2019 024 [B]

Petfood: Specified Risk Materials

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to specified risk material in petfood

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager, Animal Trade, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following direction for clearance of consignments with health attestations for specified risk materials (SRMs) on the zoosanitary certificate that is different from that included in the *Import Health Standard for Shelf-stable Petfoods Containing Animal Products* (PETFODIC.ALL; 3 November 2014).

For managing bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk, the above IHS requires bovine material-containing petfood imported from Canada and Switzerland to be accompanied by zoosanitary certification with health attestations that the following SRMs are excluded from the products:

- *From animals of all ages: The entire head (excluding the tongue) including the brain, eyes, trigeminal ganglia and tonsils; the thymus; and the intestines from the duodenum to the rectum.*
- *From animals older than 6 months: The spleen and spinal cord.*
- *From animals older than 30 months: The vertebral column (including dorsal root ganglia).*

The above definition for SRMs is based on an earlier understanding of what constituted BSE risk materials. Taking into consideration the latest scientific findings, [Article 11.4.14](#) of the 2018 edition of the OIE's [Terrestrial Animal Health Code](#) updated what constituted BSE risk materials as follows and recommended their exclusion in traded commodities sourced from countries that have a Controlled BSE Risk status. Canada is recognised as having a Controlled BSE Risk in accordance with Chapter 11.4 of the Terrestrial Code.

- *Cattle of all ages: Tonsils and distal ileum.*
- *Cattle aged 30 months or older: Brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column.*

Being a member country of the OIE, New Zealand accepts the updated definition for SRM in the model zoosanitary certificate included in the IHS.

The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risk associated with these petfood will be assessed and managed effectively.

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