



Ref: CTO 2014 093[B]

Fish: Commercially Packaged Sea Squirt for Human Consumption

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of commercially packaged sea squirt for human consumption

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 direction for commercially packaged sea squirt for human consumption to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable *Import Health Standard for Marine Fisheries Products for Human Consumption from all Countries (FISMARIC.ALL; 6 October 2008)*:

Clause 6: Eligibility: Sea squirts may be imported if commercially manufactured and packaged for human consumption and shipped frozen.

The sea squirts may belong to the species *Styela clava*, *Halocynthia roretzi*, *Microcosmus sabatieri*, *Pyura chilensis*, *Pyura praeputialis* and any other member of Class *Ascidiacea*.

Consignments of the product must be supported by documents that identifies the sea squirt by its scientific name and that it was transported in frozen condition.

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is that sea squirt is not included as one of the categories of aquatic species eligible for importation into New Zealand.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and will be effectively managed. Advice received from the Biosecurity Science, Food Science & Risk Assessment Directorate is that sea squirts that are commercially manufactured and packaged for human consumption and transported frozen will mitigate any potential biosecurity risk associated with the product.

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