



# Ovine and Caprine Semen to the United States of America (OMAR)

OACSEM.US

Effective from 12 March 2020

## **TITLE**

Animal Products Notice: Ovine and Caprine Semen to the United States of America (OMAR)

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 12 March 2020

## **REVOCATION**

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces:

- Caprine and Ovine Semen to the United States of America OACSEM.US, 8 January 2016

## **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

This Animal Products Notice is issued under sections 167(1) and 60(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999.

Dated at Wellington, 06 March 2020.

Stephen Cobb  
Manager, Import & Export Animal  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Part 1: Requirements</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1 Application	5
1.2 Definitions	5
1.3 Requirements for export	5
1.4 Specific requirements for the zoosanitary certificate	5
1.5 Laboratories	6
<b>Part 2: Zoosanitary Certificate</b>	<b>7</b>

## Introduction

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

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the zoosanitary requirements necessary to export compliant ovine and caprine semen from New Zealand to the United States of America.

## Background

The Animal Products Act 1999 provides the controls and mechanisms needed to give and to safeguard official assurances or zoosanitary certificates to facilitate the entry of animal material including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, and products into overseas markets.

Notices issued as Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) under section 60(1)(a) and (b) of the Animal Products Act specify the requirements that are necessary or desirable for the purpose of facilitating access to overseas markets or are in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authority of the importing country.

OMARs may also determine the form and content of the official assurances that can be issued for animal material or product, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen or embryos, which meet the specified requirements.

Where the OMAR determines the form and content of the official assurances, a separate export certificate template is available to authorised persons, recognised persons and registered exporters who have applied for access to the certificate templates, to facilitate the completion and issuing of the relevant official assurance. That template will be an amendable version of the form set in the OMAR.

Notices issued under section 60(1)(c) of the Animal Products Act to safeguard the assurances provided by New Zealand, and guidance in the form of Operational Codes, should be read in conjunction with this Notice.

This OMAR specifies the requirements that must be met by exporters of ovine and caprine semen to be exported from New Zealand to the United States of America and determines the form and content of the official assurance that must accompany the ovine and caprine semen to be exported. The OMAR was issued after consultation with industry and the United States of America. It is based on import requirements dated October 2018 received from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

## Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

Exporters of ovine and caprine semen to the United States of America.

Operators of Export Approved Premises collecting ovine and caprine semen for export to the United States of America

## Why is this important?

This Notice is important because it sets out the requirements that need to be met so that the Director-General of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) can certify that the ovine and caprine semen meets the requirements for export to the United States of America which New Zealand, in consultation with the government of the United States of America, has determined will apply. It should be noted that although the ovine and caprine semen may comply with these requirements and be given an official assurance (by way of

a certificate), the importing country ultimately retains control over what ovine and caprine semen it clears for entry.

## Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
12 March 2020	All sections	New OMAR

## Other information

### Export non-conformances

Exporters should note that, under section 51 of the Animal Products Act 1999, where they have exported animal material or products, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, that are refused entry by the foreign government they have a statutory duty to notify the Director-General of MPI not later than 24 hours after they have first knowledge of the event.

### Liability

Section 61A of the Animal Products Act 1999 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.

### Related documents

OMAR documents can be downloaded from <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/omars-overseas-market-access-requirements/omars-live-animals-semen-embryos-organics/>

When you click on the + symbol on the right-hand side of any OMAR document, you can view the related information and documents (guidance document and export certificate template).

The export certificate for this OMAR is provided for in *Ovine and Caprine Semen to the United States of America (Export Certificate)*. The export certificate is password-protected.

## Part 1: Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This Notice applies to the export of ovine and caprine semen from New Zealand to the United States of America.

### 1.2 Definitions

- (1) In this Notice, unless the context otherwise requires:  
**Act** means the Animal Products Act 1999
- (2) A term used in this Notice that is defined in the Act or the following Notices (or their successors) has the meaning given to it in the Act or that Notice:
  - a) [Animal Products Notice: Official Assurances Specifications for Animal Material and Animal Products.](#)
  - b) [Animal Products Notice: Specifications for Laboratories.](#)
  - c) [Animal Products Notice: Export Approved Premises](#)

### 1.3 Requirements for export

- (1) Ovine and caprine semen exported from New Zealand to the United States of America must be accompanied by an official assurance in the form of a zoosanitary certificate, a sample version of which is included in Part 2.
- (2) A zoosanitary certificate must be completed and issued by an authorised person.
- (3) In order to issue a zoosanitary certificate, the authorised person must be satisfied that:
  - a) A permit to import the ovine and caprine semen has been issued by the competent authority of the United States of America.
  - b) The proposed shipment otherwise meets the requirements of this Notice.

### 1.4 Specific requirements for the zoosanitary certificate

- (1) With regard to clause 2.2, the minimum period of time donor animals are required to have been part of New Zealand's national herd depends on the origin of the animals and/or their ancestors.
  - a) If the donor animals were imported from countries recognised by the USDA to be free of FMD, then these animals must have been free of any import quarantine restrictions and able to move freely within New Zealand's national herd for a minimum of 60 days prior to export to the United States.
  - b) If the donor animals are first generation offspring of animals or germplasm that was legally imported from a country not recognized by the USDA to be free of FMD and rinderpest, then the donor animals must have been free of any import quarantine restrictions and have been able to move freely within New Zealand's national herd for a minimum of 90 days prior to export.
- (2) Where this Notice requires laboratory testing to be undertaken the testing must be done in laboratories operating in accordance with the Recognised Laboratory Programme (RLP) unless otherwise stated.

## **1.5 Laboratories**

- (1) Where this Notice requires laboratory testing to be undertaken the testing must be done in laboratories operating in accordance with the Recognised Laboratory Programme (RLP) unless otherwise stated.

**Part 2: Zoosanitary Certificate**

Certificate No: .....

**NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES****ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE**

Commodity: OVINE AND CAPRINE SEMEN

To: THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Exporting Country: NEW ZEALAND

Competent Authority: MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Import Permit Number: .....

**I: INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DONOR ANIMAL(S) AND SEMEN**

Name	Breed	Herd Book / Registration No. / Individual ID	Date of Collection / Batch No.	Straw Identification	No. of Straws

Total number of straws in the consignment: .....

**II: ORIGIN OF THE SEMEN**

Name and address of exporter: .....

.....

Name, address and approval number of semen collection centre(s): .....

.....

**III: DESTINATION OF THE SEMEN**

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

**IV: SANITARY INFORMATION****VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I, ....., an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries hereby certify, after due enquiry with respect to the donor animal(s) and semen identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

**1 COUNTRY FREEDOM**

- 1.1 New Zealand is free of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), scrapie, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Akabane, bluetongue, Aino, epizootic haemorrhagic disease, and brucellosis (*B. abortus*, *B. melitensis*).
- 1.2 No cases of disease caused by Schmallenberg virus have been detected or reported in New Zealand.

**2 RESIDENCY STATUS OF DONOR ANIMAL(S)**

- 2.1 The donor animal(s) was born, raised, and continuously resident in a country (or countries) recognised by the USDA as free of FMD.
- 2.2 The donor animal(s) was part of New Zealand's national herd for a minimum of \*[sixty (60)] \*[or] \*[ninety (90)] days prior to collection of the semen for export.

*\* Delete as applicable*

- 2.3 The donor animal(s) was at least twelve (12) months old at the time of collection of semen in this consignment for export to the United States.

**3 HEALTH STATUS**

- 3.1 Since birth, or for at least twelve (12) months prior to collection, the semen donor(s) has only been on premises with cattle or deer herds that are officially free of bovine tuberculosis.
- 3.2 There was no clinical evidence of bovine tuberculosis in the semen collection centre on the date the semen was collected for this consignment for export to the United States.
- 3.3 During the sixty (60) days prior to the collection of semen for export to the United States, the donor animal(s) was not corralled, pastured, or held with other animals that are under restrictions which would make them ineligible as donors of semen for export to the United States.
- 3.4 During the sixty (60) days prior to the collection of semen for export to the United States, the donor animal(s) was inspected by the Centre Veterinarian and found to be free of clinical evidence of communicable diseases transmissible in semen.
- 3.5 The donor animal(s) was tested with negative results for bovine tuberculosis, using the intradermal tuberculin test; between thirty (30) and one hundred and twenty (120) days after the last collection of semen in this consignment for export to the United States.

Date of test (read): .....

- 3.6 The donor animal(s) was free of clinical evidence of communicable diseases of sheep and/or goats which are transmissible in semen, on the day(s) of collection.

Certificate No: .....

**4 SEMEN COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND STORAGE**

- 4.1 The semen was collected in a semen collection and processing centre that is approved by the Ministry for Primary Industries.
- 4.2 The semen was collected, processed and stored under the supervision of the approved Centre Veterinarian.
- 4.3 The semen was collected, processed, identified and stored in accordance with the recommendations set out in the *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* covering the collection and processing of small ruminant semen.

**4 TRANSPORT**

- 5.1 The transport container(s) contains only new liquid nitrogen and is:

Either [5.1.1 new]\*

Or [5.1.2 cleaned and disinfected]\*

*\* Delete as applicable*

- 5.2 Prior to export the transportation container was sealed by an Official Veterinarian using a seal bearing the marks:.....

.....  
 Signature Official Veterinarian  
 New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries

.....  
Official Stamp and Date

.....  
Name and Address

**Note. The Official Veterinarian must sign and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate using a different colour ink to the paper and the print, and, where applicable, sign, date and stamp each page of the documents (e.g. laboratory reports) that form part of the extended health certification**