



Import Health Standard

Draft for Consultation

Fresh Zucchini and Scallopini for Consumption

Cucurbita pepo

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Fresh Zucchini and Scallopini for Consumption

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on the date of issue.

REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces Import Health Standard Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Import Health Standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington this ... day of 2015

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Import Health Standard (IHS), but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

This IHS specifies the requirements for the importation of fresh zucchini and scallopini for consumption into New Zealand from specified countries listed in the schedules.

Background

The New Zealand Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.

Each IHS issued under the Act specifies requirements to be met for the effective management of risks associated with importing goods that may pose a biosecurity threat to New Zealand. This IHS includes requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit and importation, and post clearance, if specified, before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Additional information to the requirements is included in guidance text boxes.

Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS applies to importers of fresh zucchini, and scallopini (*Cucurbita pepo*) imported for consumption to New Zealand from specified countries listed in the Schedules.

Frozen, cooked, pickled, pureed or dried zucchini and scallopini may be imported but are covered by Import Health Standard BNZ.NPP.HUMAN: Importation into New Zealand of stored plant products intended for human consumption.

Why is it important?

Importers must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the goods comply with this IHS (section 16B of the Act).

Non-compliance with the IHS may result in clearance not being given and the goods may be treated, reshipped or destroyed. In addition, the pathway may be suspended, depending on the non-compliance.

Equivalence

MPI may consider a pre-export application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure to be approved, different from that provided for in this IHS, to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the current measures in this IHS. Equivalence will be considered with reference to the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM), Publication No. 24: *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

Document History

Refer to Appendix 2 for the Amendment Record for this standard.

Part 1: General import requirements for fresh produce

1.1 Application

This import health standard (IHS) applies to the goods described in section 2.1: Commodity description.

1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) The following documents are incorporated by reference under section 142M of the Act;

FAO IPPC - <http://www.ippc.int/IPP/En/default.htm> includes [International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPMs\)](#)

MPI's Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities (BORIC):
<http://www.maf.govt.nz/biosecurity-animal-welfare/pests-diseases/boric.aspx>.

Schedule of Regulated (Quarantine) Weed Seeds:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/ihs/schedule-of-regulated-weed-seeds.pdf>.

- (2) Under section 142O(3) of the Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply, that is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces any material incorporated by reference has legal effect as part of those documents.

1.3 General provisions

- (1) All fresh produce (fruit and vegetables) are prohibited entry into New Zealand unless they are covered by a valid import health standard.

The importer must ensure that a completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country's National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO), in accordance with ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary certification system* (2012), ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary certificates* (2012) and ISPM 23: *Guidelines for inspection* (2013), accompanies each consignment.

The phytosanitary certificate must contain information in accordance with the model phytosanitary certificate in ISPM 12, including the country/place of origin and the requirements listed in Parts 2 and 3 of this IHS.

The importer/import agent must provide MPI with all details of each consignment within 48 hours prior to arrival.

All fresh produce consignments must be free from viable regulated pests.

Fresh produce goods applicable to this IHS are imported for consumption and must not be used for other end purposes (such as propagation).

Guidance

- MPI will inspect documentation, and may inspect the consignment in accordance with official procedures.
- A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the products meet all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 of the Act are met.
- Pests are classified as regulated or non-regulated by MPI and can be found by searching MPI's BORIC database.
- A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if viable regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the

consignment is treated in order to eliminate these. Country/place of origin is defined under IPPC as; country of origin; country where the plants, from which the plant products are derived, were grown, or place of origin; where the commodity was grown or produced.

- If any regulated pests are intercepted in a sample on arrival in New Zealand, the consignment will be treated, resorted, reshipped or destroyed. In addition, the pathway may be suspended, depending on the regulated pest intercepted. ISPM 13: *Guidelines for the notification of non-compliance and emergency action* (2011) outlines non compliance criteria to which the NPPO of the exporting country is to provide actions to resolve the issue. MPI will provide advice of any non-compliance to the exporting country.
- Actions would not normally be taken if non-regulated pests are intercepted on arrival.
- Consignments without an import permit (if required) or certification, or accompanied by incorrect certification, will be held in a transitional facility until correct documentation is presented.

1.4 Exporting country systems and export plans

- (1) Importers may only import product subject to an IHS and from a country where the NPPO has provided evidence to the satisfaction of a Chief Technical Officer (CTO) of the national systems/programmes and standards in the exporting country for regulatory oversight of the export industry in accordance with ISPM 7.
- (2) Once satisfied, MPI and the NPPO may commence negotiation of a country-specific export plan that demonstrates how the measures in this IHS will be achieved. Countries where negotiation of an export plan has been completed will be listed on the MPI website [link]. The export plan is subject to audit by MPI.

Guidance

- Requests from exporting countries to negotiate an export plan for the import of the product into New Zealand will be prioritised according to MPI resources available at the time of application.

1.5 Transport requirements

- (1) All fresh produce must be packaged in insect proof containers and shipped in a manner to prevent contamination by regulated pests.
- (2) If a consignment of fresh produce is either opened, stored, split up or has its packaging changed while in any other country en route to New Zealand, a 'phytosanitary certificate for re-export' in accordance with ISPM 12 is required to accompany each consignment.

Guidance

- A 'phytosanitary certificate for re-export' is not required where a consignment is held under bond, as a result of the need to change conveyances, and is kept in the original shipping/air container and packaging.
- Fresh produce covered by correct documentation may be transhipped within New Zealand provided they are packaged in sealed pest proof containers and transported directly to a MPI approved transitional facility for final MPI clearance.
- Fresh produce in-transit to another country may be off loaded at the international airports and seaports of New Zealand for reloading onto another aircraft or vessel provided that the following conditions are met:
 - the fresh fruit/vegetables are held in pest proof containers.
 - the consignment shall be stored separately from other plant material to the satisfaction of an inspector.
 - the consignment shall remain at the airport or wharf of arrival.

Part 2: Phytosanitary certification

2.1 Commodity description

- (1) This IHS specifies the requirements for the importation of fresh zucchini and scallopini (*Cucurbita pepo*) for human consumption from recognised countries.

Fresh zucchini and scallopini for human consumption is defined as the commercially produced immature and white fleshed individual fruits of *Cucurbita pepo* harvested with soft green or yellow skin trimmed at the point where the stem meets the peduncle and excluding any stem, leaves or flowers; cleaned, packed and transported to New Zealand for consumption.

2.2 Mandatory phytosanitary inspection and certification

- (1) The NPPO must:

verify that the specific measures for fruit flies and regulated arthropods have been applied (Part 3).
sample and visually inspect using 10x magnification each consignment of zucchini and scallopini according to official procedures for all the regulated pests specified by New Zealand in Part 3 of this IHS and ensure that it conforms to New Zealand's current import requirements.

establish the regulatory status of any organisms found which are not listed in the IHS by:

- i) consulting the MPI's BORIC database.

OR

- ii) contacting MPI to establish the regulatory status of the organism.

verify that the number of packages containing zucchini and scallopini fruit is consistent with the number treated, traceability labelling is complete, and that the packaging is insect-proof.

2.3 Additional declarations

- 1) The NPPO must issue a phytosanitary certificate to accompany each consignment of zucchini and scallopini exported to New Zealand with the following additional declarations:

- i) This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand and conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

AND

- ii) The plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have undergone the prescribed measures for the management of specified regulated pests required by New Zealand.

Guidance

- Regulated pests that require specific measures specified by New Zealand are found in Part 3 of this standard.

- (2) Full details of end point treatments (listed in Part 3) **must** be included in the "Disinfestation and /or Disinfection Treatment" area of the phytosanitary certificate or as an endorsed attachment to the phytosanitary certificate. Details of the treatment including duration and temperature, chemical (active ingredient) and concentration must be recorded.

Part 3: Pre-export requirements for specified quarantine pests

3.1 Regulated pest list

- (1) The full list of regulated (quarantine and regulated non-quarantine) and non-regulated pests for New Zealand can be found in BORIC.

The regulated pest list for zucchini and scallopini from recognised countries can be found here: [\(LINK\)](#).

3.2 Fruit Flies

- (1) Fruit flies of economic importance to New Zealand that are associated with zucchini and scallopini include:
 - *Bactrocera cucumis*
 - *Bactrocera kirki*
 - *Bactrocera xanthodes*
 - *Ceratitis capitata*
- (2) One of the following specific pre-export phytosanitary measures for fruit flies of economic importance associated with zucchini and scallopini is required. No additional measures are required where 'country freedom' status is recognised for the export country.

3.2.1 Pest Free Area

- (1) The NPPO must operate pest free areas in compliance with ISPM 26: *Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)* (IPPC 2006).

The official operating manual for the management of pest free areas must be reviewed by MPI prior to the export country receiving approval for the export of zucchini and scallopini to New Zealand.

The management of the pest free area is subject to audit by MPI.

3.2.2 Systems approach for Fruit Flies

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against fruit flies when fruit flies are detected through an approved crop monitoring programme during production of the fruit.
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for fruit flies (10x magnification).
- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of fruit fly infestation, infection or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.
- (4) Zucchini and scallopini for export to New Zealand must be dipped in a dimethoate solution at 400ppm active ingredient for a minimum of 1 minute.

Guidance

- A systems approach requires two or more phytosanitary measures that are independent of each other. In principle, systems approaches should be composed of a combination of phytosanitary measures that are possible to implement within the exporting country. The combination of these phytosanitary measures reduces the risk to an acceptable level. The systems approach should be in accordance with the international standard for phytosanitary measures (ISPM) 14: *The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for pest risk management* (IPPC, 2002).

3.2.3 Winter window

- (1) Winter window may be used for *Bactrocera cucumis*.
- (2) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against fruit flies when fruit flies are detected through an approved crop monitoring programme during production of the fruit.
- (3) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for fruit flies (10x magnification).
- (4) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of fruit fly infestation, infection or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.
- (5) Winter window operates in New Zealand between 1 May and 1 September.

3.3 Other pests

- (1) If pests listed below are present in the recognised country, the measures identified for that pest are required.

3.3.1 *Thrips palmi*

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against this pest when the pest appears during production of the fruit (as a component of other in-field pest control activities).
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for signs or symptoms of pests (10x magnification).
- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of insect infestation or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.

3.3.2 *Tetranychus kanzawai*

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against this pest when the pest appears during production of the fruit (as a component of other in-field pest control activities).
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for signs or symptoms of pests (10x magnification).
- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of insect infestation or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.

3.3.3 *Bemisia tabaci*

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against this pest when the pest appears during production of the fruit (as a component of other in-field pest control activities).
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for signs or symptoms of pests (10x magnification).

- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of insect infestation or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.

3.3.4 *Phyllophaga* spp.

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against this pest when the pest appears during production of the fruit (as a component of other in-field pest control activities).
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for signs or symptoms of pests (10x magnification).
- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of insect infestation or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.

3.3.5 *Lyriomyza sativae*

- (1) Zucchini and scallopini must be sprayed with an approved insecticide effective against this pest when the pest appears during production of the fruit (as a component of other in-field pest control activities).
- (2) All export consignments must be inspected by suitably qualified staff at the packhouses for signs or symptoms of pests (10x magnification).
- (3) Zucchini and scallopini displaying symptoms of insect infestation or damage must be removed and disposed of. Only fruits eligible for export will be selected and separated from non-export fruit to prevent contamination.

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Appendix 1 – Definitions

Definitions have the same meaning as defined by the Act and ISPM 5: *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms* (2012), unless set out below:

BORIC

Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities: MPI database which informs on the quarantine status for an organism as either regulated or non-regulated for New Zealand.

Consignment

One or more lots imported by one importer, on one conveyance at one time, and covered by one phytosanitary certificate.

Note 1: Commercial consignments are unaccompanied consignments covered by an airway bill/bill of lading intended for resale.

Note 2: Private consignments are accompanied consignments imported as personal property.

FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

IPPC

International Plant Protection Convention.

ISPM

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (IPPC).

NPPO

National Plant Protection Organisation – the official organisation established by a government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC.

Non-regulated pest

Non-regulated organisms are those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would not be undertaken if they were intercepted/ detected. These may include new organisms which could not establish in New Zealand.

Pathway

A series of activities that, when carried out according to documented procedures, form a discrete and traceable export system.

Pest

Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plant or plant products [IPPC].

Regulated pest

A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest (ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*, 2012).

Viable

Any organism that is capable of development and/or reproduction, including insects, plants, seeds and other organisms that have not been through a de-vitalisation or sterilisation treatment.

Appendix 2 – Amendment Record

The following table provides a summary of the last amendment to country schedules for the import of fresh apples for consumption into New Zealand. Amendments are presented alphabetically by country.

Schedule:	Details:	Date:

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