



Guidance Document

Draft for Consultation

Natural Sausage Casings

MEACASIC.ALL

Title

Guidance Document: [Natural Sausage Casings]

About this document

[This guidance document contains information about acceptable ways of ensuring compliance with the requirements in the *Import Health Standard (IHS): Natural Sausage Casings*.

Any guidance on how to comply with the applicable requirements may not be the only way to achieve compliance. Stakeholders are encouraged to discuss departures from the approaches outlined in this guidance document with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to avoid expending resources on the development of alternative approaches which may later be considered unsuitable.

The term “must” is not typically used in guidance. In this particular document if the term “must” is used, it is used in the context of quoting or paraphrasing the requirements set out in the related *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings*.

Related requirements

Import Health Standard: Natural Sausage Casings.

Document history

[Refer to Appendix 1.]

Contact details

[For further information and questions about this guidance document, please contact:

Ministry for Primary Industries
Regulation & Assurance
Animal Imports
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

Email: animalimports@mpi.govt.nz]

Disclaimer

[This guidance does not constitute, and should not be regarded as, legal advice. While every effort has been made to ensure the information in this guidance is accurate, the Ministry for Primary Industries does not accept any responsibility or liability whatsoever for any error of fact, omission, interpretation or opinion that may be present, however it may have occurred.]

Copyright



Crown copyright ©. This copyright work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 New Zealand licence. In essence, you are free to copy, distribute and adapt the work, as long as you attribute the work to the Ministry for Primary Industries and abide by the other licence terms. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/nz/>. Please note that no governmental emblem, logo or Coat of Arms may be used in any way which infringes any provision of the Flags, Emblems, and Names Protection Act 1981 or would infringe such provision if the relevant use occurred within New Zealand. Attribution to the Ministry for Primary Industries should be in written form and not by reproduction of any such emblem, logo or Coat of Arms.

Contents	Page
1 Purpose	3
2 Background	3
3 Definitions	3
4 Importer Responsibilities	3
5 Guidance	3
5.1 Equivalence	3
5.2 Food Act 1981 and Animal Products Act 1999	4
5.3 Incorporation of material by reference	4
5.4 Exporting country systems and certification	4
5.5 Retorted product	5
5.6 Inspection and verification	6
6 Veterinary Certificates	7
6.1 Model veterinary certificate	7
6.2 Model Manufacturer's Declaration	9
Appendix 1 – Document History	10

1 Purpose

- (1) [This guidance document has been issued to accompany the *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings*. This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that IHS.
- (2) This document includes:
 - a) Countries with MPI-approved exporting systems to import natural sausage casings into New Zealand.
 - b) Model veterinary certificate.
 - c) Negotiated country specific veterinary certificates for limited species.

2 Background

- (1) The *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings*, which this guidance document accompanies, contains generic import requirements. These are the rules to manage the biosecurity risk of importing sausage casings from all countries that can meet the requirements of the IHS and in doing so meet New Zealand's appropriate level of protection. The generic IHS serves as the basis for country-to-country (bilateral) negotiations. This guidance document contains a model veterinary certificate and bilaterally-agreed veterinary certificates for trade in natural sausage casings. These country-specific veterinary certificates represent what will be certified prior to exporting consignments of natural sausage casings from the country specified.
- (2) General information about importing animal products can be found here: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/animals/standards/general-animal-bio-products.htm>

3 Definitions

- (1) Refer to Schedule 2 of the *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings*.

4 Importer Responsibilities

- (1) The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of natural sausage casings will be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) and any regulations made under that Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

5 Guidance

5.1 Equivalence

- (1) MPI may accept an alternative method, system or process that can be shown to achieve the biosecurity requirements of the IHS (i.e. equivalence).
- (2) MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz
- (3) Note that a permit to import is not required to import natural sausage casings into New Zealand provided the requirements of the IHS are met.
- (4) A permit may be required where specific equivalence measures are approved by MPI other than by a negotiated veterinary certificate as specified in the IHS.

- (5) Permit to import application forms can be found on the MPI website at:
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/3124>
- (6) Completed applications are lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

5.2 Food Act 1981 and Animal Products Act 1999

- (1) Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with relevant requirements of the Food Act 1981, the Food Act 2014 as it comes into force, and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code. Importers of food intended for sale for human consumption must be listed with MPI. These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements. Importers are advised to consult MPI's Food Safety website:
<http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/importing/>.
- (2) The importation of the following animal material or product must comply with the inspection requirements issued in Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR) 01/172 under the Animal Products Act 1999:
 - a) Imported animal material or product, or product containing animal material or product, that is of New Zealand origin and have been returned to New Zealand for domestic sale or use, or for re-export, and
 - b) Imported animal material or product of foreign origin intended for export or further processing for export.
- (3) A prerequisite requirement of this OMAR is Biosecurity clearance. The inspection requirements can be found at: <http://foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/general/animal-products/omars/01-172.htm> or obtained from your local Verification Services office <http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/about/verification-agency/contact.htm>.

5.3 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements. This is done because technical documents are too large or impractical to include in the IHS.
- (2) Where the IHS states that section 142O(1) of the Act does not apply, this means that importers need to refer to the most recent version of any standards, guidelines or lists that are incorporated by reference in the IHS.

5.4 Exporting country systems and certification

5.4.1 Approval for exporting systems

- (1) MPI recommends Competent Authorities that request the approval of their exporting systems refer to Section 3 of the *Code* titled *Quality of Veterinary Services*, to prepare evidence for MPI regarding capabilities and preferences of the exporting country's Competent Authority.
- (2) The table below lists those exporting countries that meet the requirements set out in the *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings*.

Countries with approved exporting systems	Species	Date agreed
Australia	All sausage casings	Ongoing trade
EU Member Countries	Porcine/ovine/caprine sausage casings	Ongoing trade
Canada and the United States	Porcine sausage casings	Ongoing trade

5.4.2 Agreed country specific veterinary certificates

- (1) Requests from exporting countries to negotiate veterinary certification for the import of natural sausage casings into New Zealand will be prioritised according to MPI resources available at the time of application.
- (2) A model veterinary certificate is provided in this guidance document and can be used by the Competent Authority as a reference for country-specific veterinary certificate negotiation.
- (3) All country-specific veterinary certificates agreed between an exporting country's Competent Authority and MPI are included in the table below:

(4)

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use
Australia*	Need to add link	N/A	N/A	N/A
EU*	Need to add link	N/A	N/A	N/A
Canada and the US*	Need to add link	N/A	N/A	N/A

*New veterinary certificate has not been negotiated as of June 2015

- (5) Country-specific veterinary certificates with equivalent measures will be recorded with a number relevant to a Chief Technical Officer (CTO) direction under section 27(1)d(iii) of the Act, to enable border staff to clear the goods and record the number in the MPI database.
- (6) When a newly negotiated country-specific veterinary certificate replaces one which is currently in use, the application of new import conditions will apply according to the dates listed in the table. At that time previous veterinary certificates for that country can no longer be used.
- (7) After issue of the IHS, the measures may be used by countries which already have an agreed veterinary certificate. Using the measures before a new country-specific veterinary certificate is agreed can create challenges at the time of biosecurity clearance. MPI should be notified prior to their use in order to provide clarification to border staff.
- (8) When a country-specific veterinary certificate is agreed, there will be a four-month transition period to allow donors to be prepared in accordance with the new conditions. During transition, both the old and the new import conditions are acceptable. After transition, the previous veterinary certificate for that country can no longer be used.
- (9) Currently there are three country-specific veterinary certificates for natural sausage casings imports into New Zealand, as indicated above.

5.5 Retorted product

- (1) The requirements for retorted product are stated in the MPI [*IHS: Importing Specified Foods for Human Consumption Containing Animal Products*](#).

5.6 Inspection and verification

- (1) On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector. The inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment on arrival.
- (2) Inspectors are able to inspect and verify due to their authorised powers under the Act.
- (3) These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements.


Draft for Consultation

6 Certificates for Natural Sausage Casings

6.1 Model veterinary certificate

- (1) Below is a model veterinary certificate for trade in natural sausage casings. This model meets the requirements of the IHS.
- (2) This model veterinary certificate format is based on the *Code* Chapter 5.10.4 for model veterinary certificates for international trade in Animal Products.

Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Address:		1.2. Certificate reference number:																									
			1.3. Competent Authority:																									
	1.4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:																											
	1.5. Country of origin		ISO Code*	1.6. Zone or compartment of origin**:																								
	1.7. Country of destination:		ISO Code*	1.8. Zone or compartment of destination**:																								
	1.9. Manufacturing premise: Name: Address:																											
	1.10. Port of export:		1.11. Date of departure:																									
	1.12. Means of transport: <input type="checkbox"/> Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Identification:		1.13. Expected border post:																									
	1.15. Description of commodity:		1.16. Commodity Code (HS Code):																									
			1.17. Total quantity:																									
		1.18. Total number of packages:																										
1.20. Identification of container/serial number:		1.21. Type of packaging:																										
1.23. Identification of commodity																												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Species (Scientific Name)</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Lot ID/date code:</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Nature of commodity</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Treatment type</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Establishment approval number</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Net weight</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>					Species (Scientific Name)	Lot ID/date code:	Nature of commodity	Treatment type	Establishment approval number	Net weight																		
Species (Scientific Name)	Lot ID/date code:	Nature of commodity	Treatment type	Establishment approval number	Net weight																							
* Optional. ** If referenced in Part 2.																												

Part 2: Veterinary Information	Country:	Certificate reference number:
	<p>The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the product(s) of animal origin described above satisfy(ies) the following requirements:</p> <p>Commodity eligibility</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Every animal from which the casings are produced has passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection in slaughter and processing plants which operate GMP and HACCP programmes to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority. (2) After removal of gut contents, cleaning and scraping, the casings have been stored at room temperature in either dry salt or saturated brine for a minimum of 30 days. (3) The casings are sound and fit for human consumption. <p>Commodity description</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (4) The sausage casings included in this consignment include (<i>delete those not applicable</i>): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Natural sausage casings derived from porcine animals (pigs), comprised of the submucosal tissue layer of the intestine; (b) Natural sausage casings derived from bovine animals (cattle), comprised of all major intestinal tissue layers, with the exception of the ileum. After processing, only a small amount of mucosa and lymphoid tissue remain; (c) Natural sausage casings derived from caprine animals (goats) or ovine animals (sheep), comprised of the submucosal tissue layer of the small intestine. <p>Specified requirements for identified risk organism</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (5) Classical Swine Fever Virus (CSFV), porcine casings only (<i>delete clause if not applicable</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The casings were derived from animals continuously resident in countries, zones or compartments recognised to be free from CSFV for the 12 months prior to slaughter as determined by the conditions listed in Article 15.2.3 of the OIE Code; or (b) The casings were salted for at least 30 days with supplemented dry salt or saturated brine (Aw<0.80) containing 86.5% NaCl, 10.7% Na₂HPO₄ and 2.8% Na₃PO₄ (weight/weight/weight) and kept at a temperature of greater than 20°C during this entire period. 	
	<p>Official Veterinarian</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Email:</p>	<p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Official Veterinarian signature Official stamp and date</p> </div>

6.2 Model manufacturer's declaration

Company Letterhead	
1. Importer name: Address:	
2. Manufacturer name: Address:	
3. Country of destination: New Zealand	4. Country of origin:
5. Description of commodity:	
6. Invoice number:	7. Nature of packaging:
8. Net weight in kilograms (kgs):	9. Number of packages:
10. Number of container(s) and container seal number(s):	
<p>I, _____ the Quality manager (or equivalent) of the manufacturing premises declare that the casings in this consignment have been packaged in new, clean and secure packaging and:</p> <p>(1) Our production facilities operate under GMP or HACCP programmes to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority in _____.</p> <p>(2) After removing gut contents, cleaning and scraping, the casings were stored at room temperature in either dry salt or saturated brine for a minimum of 30 days.</p> <p>NOTE: This declaration must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate stating that the official veterinarian has no reason to doubt the veracity of this declaration. It must also be able to be clearly linked to the veterinarian certificate.</p>	
Name:	
Signature:	Date:

Appendix 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
	Natural Sausage Casings	MEACASIC.ALL
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode

Draft for Consultation