



# Import Health Standard for Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser (including Guano Fertiliser)

Short Name: INORGFERT.ALL

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P O Box 2526  
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New Zealand



### Issuing Authority

This *Import Health Standard (IHS) for Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser including Guano Fertiliser (INORGFERT.ALL)* may be found at the following web address: -

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/non-organic/standards/inorgfert.all.htm>

This IHS is issued under section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) -

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1993/0095/latest/DLM314623.html>.

This IHS revokes and replaces the following IHSs issued previously by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF):

- (a) *MAF Standard FERGUAIC.ALLL: IHS for the importation of Guano based fertiliser into New Zealand (NZ)* first issued 14 January 1998; and
- (b) *MAF Standard 152-08.04I: IHS for Bulk Fertiliser* first issued 26 May 1999.

Dated at Wellington this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2012.

Note: Full implementation of this standard will occur 3 months after the date of issue on 19 October 2012 to cater for cargos that have been arranged, purchased or consigned under the requirements of the previous standards.

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Peter Thomson  
Director, Plants, Food and Environment  
Standards Branch  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(Issued under delegated authority)  
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For all matters relating to the interpretation, review and amendment of this IHS, please contact:

Biosecurity and Environment Group  
IHS for Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser (IHS for INORGFERT.ALL)  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
PO Box 2526 Wellington 6011  
NZ  
Fax: 64 4 894 0662  
Email: [standards@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:standards@mpi.govt.nz)

For all matters relating to the operation of this IHS, including audits, inspections and treatments, please contact your local MPI office. This IHS is accessible on:

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/non-organic/standards/inorgfert.all.htm>

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## **PART A. INTRODUCTION**

### **A.1. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL FERTILISER**

- (1) Under section 22 of the Act, this document is the IHS for bulk inorganic fertiliser (from this point referred to generically as “fertiliser”). Guano fertiliser is considered to be a subset of bulk inorganic fertiliser and some specific conditions are required for importation of guano fertiliser. Guano fertiliser will be referred to as “guano” from this point.
- (2) This IHS specifies the requirements that must be met for the effective management of biosecurity risks associated with the importation of all fertiliser consignments (including guano) covered by this IHS before they may:-
  - enter NZ;
  - or be moved from a biosecurity control area;
  - or be moved to a transitional facility (TF);
  - or be provided with a biosecurity clearance or direction.
- (3) A guidance document will also be issued to accompany this IHS, it can be found at the same web address as this document. The guidance document will provide advice relevant to how requirements of this IHS may be met.
- (4) A biosecurity clearance, pursuant to section 26 of the Act, will be actioned or issued when fertiliser (including guano) meets all of the requirements of this IHS.
- (5) Inspections and other functions undertaken by MPI will be charged as per the current [Biosecurity \(Costs\) Regulations](#). MPI charges for assessment of information, development and approval of alternative systems or further actions as a result of non-compliance or required inspection activities conducted by MPI are the responsibility of the individual importer or organisation.
- (6) If this IHS needs to be amended or revoked urgently, or the Director-General considers that an amendment is minor, the amendment or revocation may be carried out without prior consultation.

### **A.2 SCOPE**

This IHS applies to the importation of the following types of bulk fertiliser:-

- (a) direct application fertiliser (DAF);
- (b) guano (also for direct application use);
- (c) fertiliser for further processing (including fertiliser ingredients).

Note: This IHS does not cover importation of liquid fertiliser or bagged and containerised inorganic fertilisers (these products have been determined to have a lower risk status). In addition, this IHS does not apply to organic fertilisers that primarily consist of animal, microbial or plant material. For information on the importation of organic fertilisers refer to:-

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/imports/animals> or  
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/ihs/bnz-fertgro-imppt.pdf>

## **PART B. FERTILISER REQUIREMENTS**

### **B.1 REQUIRED CERTIFICATION OR INFORMATION**

Certification or information required under this IHS for all fertiliser consignments arriving in NZ must be received by MPI at least 72 hours prior to arrival.

## B.2 OUTCOMES

Fertiliser imported into NZ must be substantially free of the biosecurity risk material specified in the following table (A.5 Permitted levels of biosecurity risk material) or it must be directly managed by other approved methods.

## B.3 PERMITTED LEVELS OF BIOSECURITY RISK MATERIAL

(1) Contamination of fertiliser for direct application (DAF or guano) may occur during production or during loading into contaminated vessels in the country of origin. DAF and guano must not contain regulated biosecurity risk material that exceeds levels specified as follows:-

Biosecurity Risk Material	Permitted Level per 5KG Hold Sample
Arthropods & Molluscs (live)	Nil
Animal material or by-products	Nil
Plant material – dead/desiccated	1 piece (not exceeding 5cm <sup>2</sup> )
Plant material - fresh/green & regulated grains/seeds	Nil
Soil (clods, lumps etc)	5 grams

(2) Fertiliser for further processing **may** contain levels of contaminants exceeding those listed above as this material may only be imported under a management system approved by MPI.

## B.4 DAF

### B.4.1 PRESHIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

This section specifies sampling, analysis and vessel requirements for DAF that must be conducted before shipping to NZ.

Note: This section excludes guano consignments.

- (a) DAF must be sampled to form a 5 kg composite sample from each vessel hold containing fertiliser. DAF must be sampled and analysed in accordance with ISO sampling requirements prior to shipment to NZ (unless another on-arrival arrangement for sampling is permitted by MPI as part of an approved system). This is to determine the constituent make up and presence or absence of biosecurity risk.
- (b) The sampling referred to in B.4.1 (a) must be conducted by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an independent third party organisation (ITPO) where this is applicable. Samples must be analysed at an appropriate independent third party laboratory in the country of origin, in NZ or in another country.
- (c) Where laboratory samples are sent to an independent laboratory in NZ for analysis, provision of samples must be conducted as follows:-
  - (a) Firstly, samples can only be sent to NZ third party laboratories approved by MPI as a transitional facility (MPI will hold a register of these facilities).
  - (b) The sample(s) must be securely packaged to ensure spillage cannot easily occur.
  - (c) The package(s) must be clearly identified as official (bulk inorganic fertiliser) sample(s) with a copy of the Fertiliser Sampling Certificate attached externally for scrutiny by MPI and also a copy contained inside the package(s). Once reconciliation of the documents provided occurs samples may be sent to an approved NZ third party laboratory. Finally, where samples are determined to be compliant after analysis, they may be returned to the importer for use or disposed of.
- (d) Any vessel hold used to transport DAF to NZ must be inspected and certified by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO (where this is applicable) to ensure freedom from contamination from previous cargoes and verifying the cleanliness of the hold (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts).

## **B.4.2 REQUIRED DAF CERTIFICATION**

DAF (excluding guano fertiliser) must be accompanied by the following certificates:-

### **(a) FERTILISER SAMPLING CERTIFICATE**

This certificate must:

- (i) specify the sampling techniques used to draw samples for analysis; and
- (ii) specify the agency conducting the sampling;
- (iii) be issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin or place of loading.

### **(b) FERTILISER ANALYSIS CERTIFICATE**

This certificate must:

- (i) accurately state the chemical constituent make up of the fertiliser including the identification, presence, and quantity of all contaminants detected; and
- (ii) specify the agency conducting the analysis; and
- (iii) be issued by an appropriate third party laboratory and issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin/place of loading.

### **(c) VESSEL (CLEANLINESS) CERTIFICATE**

This certificate must:

- (i) specify that fertiliser (intended for direct application such as DAF/guano) is free from contamination (biosecurity risk material) from previous cargoes and attest to the cleanliness of the vessel (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts of the hold); and
- (ii) be issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin/place of loading.

## **B.5 GUANO**

### **B.5.1 PRESHIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

This section specifies sampling, analysis and vessel requirements for guano consignments that must be conducted before shipping to NZ.

- (1) Guano (intended for direct application) must be heat treated (in the country of origin) at a minimum temperature of 100°C for at least 1 minute.
- (2) Any vessel hold used to transport guano to NZ must be inspected and certified by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO where this is applicable to ensure freedom from cross contamination from previous cargoes after heat treatment and to verify the cleanliness of the hold (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts).

### **B.5.2 REQUIRED GUANO CERTIFICATION**

Guano must be accompanied by the following certificates:-

#### **(a) TREATMENT CERTIFICATE**

This certificate must:

- (i) state “During processing, the [product description] has been heat treated at a minimum temperature of 100°C for at least 1 minute”; and
- (ii) be issued by the manufacturer or treatment provider.

#### **(b) VESSEL (CLEANLINESS) CERTIFICATE**

This certificate must:

- (i) specify that guano (intended for use as DAF) is free from contamination (biosecurity risk material) from previous cargoes and attest to the cleanliness of the vessel (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts of the hold); and
- (ii) be issued or endorsed by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO in the port of origin or place of loading.

## B.6 FERTILISER FOR FURTHER PROCESSING

### B.6.1 SYSTEMS FOR FERTILISER FOR FURTHER PROCESSING

Fertiliser for further processing must be imported under a MPI approved system. A documented system must:

- (a) specify the specific details of consignments, management of pre-entry activities through arrival in NZ, border clearance, and transportation to the TF where the material will be stored and how it will be further processed; and
- (b) outline the critical control points, preventative management systems, measures and processes used by the importer to mitigate and/or manage any biosecurity risks that maybe associated with their products.

Importers must submit their system to MPI for assessment and approval prior to importation of fertiliser for further processing (see Contact details, Page 2 of this IHS). Note: This IHS does not permit the process of simply mixing such fertiliser or ingredients (re-blending) after importation with other products to form a direct application fertiliser without further treatment, MPI inspection or as part of a MPI-approved documented system.

## PART C. EQUIVALENCE

Requirements for the importation of fertiliser will be met in full if a Chief Technical Officer acting under delegated authority considers that an importing company has implemented equivalent measures in a system for managing associated risk that are as effective as the standard IHS requirements (as specified in Part B of this document). If an equivalence system is thus approved, MPI will provide signoff of the system under delegated authority.

## APPENDIX 1: DEFINITIONS

In this IHS the following definitions apply (other terms may also be found in the Act):-

**Biosecurity Risk Material** means any material that constitutes a biosecurity risk, including but not limited to:

- (a) animal bones, carcasses, excrement, feathers, skins, and any related material;
- (b) grain or seeds;
- (c) other plant material or plant products (including fresh or dried material such as bark, fruit, leaves, twigs);
- (d) regulated animal or plant pests or hitch-hiker organisms;
- (e) soil (clumps or loose); and
- (f) wood and wood products (including bark).

**Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser** means un-bagged and non-containerised consignments of fertiliser or ingredients of fertiliser transported as loose consignments in vessel holds.

**Contamination** means the unwanted presence of regulated contaminants (including regulated organisms) that may pose a biosecurity risk to NZ found in a commodity, container, conveyance or storage place or in any material.

**Consignment** means unaccompanied goods being moved from one country to another and covered by an airway bill/bill of lading or consignment note.

**Direct Application Fertiliser (DAF)** means fertiliser that is ready for immediate use or those products where the usual manufacturing process in NZ would not destroy, or render non-viable any biosecurity risk material.

**Fertiliser** means a substance manufactured, intended for further manufacture, represented, supplied, or used as a means of directly or indirectly:

- (a) supplying nutrients to the soil; or
- (b) conditioning the soil by altering the biological, chemical, or physical composition of the soil.

**Fertiliser Analysis Certificate** means a certificate that is issued by an appropriate independent laboratory in the country of loading (or in NZ) that:

- (a) states that analysis has been conducted in accordance with appropriate guidelines;
- (b) states the chemical composition of the fertiliser;
- (c) identifies and quantifies any contaminants detected; and
- (d) specifies the laboratory or agency that conducted the analysis.

**Fertiliser For Further Processing** means fertiliser (including ingredients of inorganic fertiliser) that will be processed in NZ to ensure that any contaminants will be destroyed or devitalised (for example, hot mix – sulphuric acid process).

**Fertiliser Sampling Certificate** means a certificate issued by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or ITPO in the country of loading that:

- (a) states that the sampling has been conducted in accordance with ISO Standards 8633, 8634 and ISO Technical Report 7553;
- (b) specifies the sampling techniques used to obtain samples for analysis; and
- (c) specifies the laboratory/agency that conducted the sampling.

**Guano Fertiliser** means inorganic fertiliser made from guano, which is the mineralised product derived from fossilised bat or bird droppings.

**Independent Third Party Laboratory** means a laboratory that has been recognised by a laboratory accrediting organisation (national or international) to test and evaluate products to an international standard or product safety standard; and is free from commercial, financial, and other pressures that may influence the results of the testing and evaluation process.

Note: Such laboratories in NZ (intending to conduct analysis of fertiliser samples) must also be approved by MPI as a TF. Approved fertiliser analysis laboratories must have the means to securely store organic contaminants prior to approved disposal or have the means to devitalise organic contaminants found during analysis.

**Independent Third Party Organisation (ITPO)** means an independent (third party) service provider that may arrange and/or monitor fertiliser analysis, fertiliser sampling and transportation systems to confirm statements made in certification as required by MPI. Such organisations should be accredited to appropriate ISO standards (or equivalent) for audit/verification purposes.

**Inorganic Fertiliser** means a chemical product, of either inorganic mineral or synthetic origin, that provides nutrients to stimulate plant growth.

**ISO** means the International Organisation for Standardisation which is the worldwide federation of national standards bodies.

**ISO Sampling** means sampling in accordance with ISO Standards: 8633, 8634, and ISO Technical Report 7553 or any standards or technical reports that replace them.