



Hides and Skins

HIDESKIN.ALL

7 August 2015

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Hides and Skins

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on 7 August 2015.

REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces Hides and Skins (*HIDCOMIC.ALL* dated 30 June 2011).

ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington this 7th day of August 2015

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the legal requirements of this import health standard (IHS), but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

- (1) This IHS specifies the minimum requirements that must be met when importing hides and skins into New Zealand.

Background

- (1) The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.
- (2) Import health standards issued under the Act set out requirements to be met to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with importing goods. They include requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit, and during importation, before biosecurity clearance can be given.
- (3) A guidance document accompanies this IHS providing information on how the requirements may be met.

Who should read this import health standard?

- (1) This IHS applies to importers of eligible consignments of hides and skins.

Why is this important?

- (1) It is the importer's responsibility to ensure the requirements of this IHS are met. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and/or further information may be sought from importers. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may be re-shipped or destroyed under the Act or treated in accordance with this IHS prior to release or equivalence determined. Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

See guidance document for more information about importer responsibilities.

Equivalence

- (1) The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may approve measures under section 27(1)(d) of the Act, different from those set out in this IHS, that may be applied to effectively manage risks associated with the importation of these goods. If an equivalent measure is approved an import permit may be issued under section 24D(2) of the Act, if the Director-General considers it appropriate to do so.

See guidance document for more information about equivalence and permits.

Document history

- (1) Refer to Schedule 1.

Other information

- (1) This is not an exhaustive list of compliance requirements and it is the importer's responsibility to be familiar with and comply with all New Zealand laws.

See guidance document for more information about inspection and verification of consignments.

Part 1: General Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This import health standard (IHS) applies to:
 - a) Fully tanned hides and skins.
 - b) Processed hides and skins.
 - c) Salted or dried hides and skins.
 - d) Casualty skins.
 - e) Macropod hides and skins.
- (2) The following products are not eligible for importation under this IHS:
 - a) Manufactured products containing fully tanned hides and skins (see [IHS: Ornamental Products of Animal Origin](#)).
 - b) Rawhide articles and handicrafts (see [IHS: Ornamental Products of Animal Origin](#)).
 - c) Animal fibre (see [IHS: Animal Fibre](#)).

1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) The following international standards are incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:
 - a) The *OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code* ([the Code](#)).
- (2) The following material is incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:
 - a) *MPI Approved Diagnostic Tests, Vaccines, Treatments and Post-arrival Testing Laboratories for Animal Import Health Standards* ([MPI-STD-TVTL](#)).
 - b) MPI List of [FMD-Free Countries and Zones](#).
- (3) 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 the above listed standards, guideline or lists has legal effect as part of these documents.

See guidance document for more information about incorporation by reference and section 142O(1).

1.3 Definitions

- (1) For the purposes of this standard and the attached guidance document, terms used that are defined in the Act have the meanings set out there. The Act is available at the following website:
<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>.
- (2) Refer to Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

1.4 Packaging

- (1) The consignment must be clearly identified and identifiable to the veterinary certificate.
- (2) The packaging of all consignments of hides and skins must be clean and secure.
- (3) The criteria to be applied to determine whether the outcome in clause (2) has been achieved are as follows:
 - a) The exterior of the package is free from any organic contaminants.
 - b) The hides and skins are adequately contained.

1.5 Import permit

- (1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required if:
 - a) It is required in the IHS.
 - b) Prior to import, a CTO has approved an equivalent measure under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that is different from those in this IHS that may be applied to effectively manage risks.
- (2) A permit is not required if, prior to import, a CTO has approved an equivalent measure under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that is different from those in this IHS in the form of a negotiated veterinary certificate.

See guidance document for more information about applying for a permit, equivalence and country-specific veterinary certificates.

1.6 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the following:
 - a) An import permit (copy acceptable) where required. The importer must supply the following information to obtain a permit:
 - i) The name and address of exporter.
 - ii) The type of product.
 - iii) The name and address of the New Zealand importer.
 - iv) The name and address of the transitional facility in New Zealand to which the consignment is to proceed following importation.
 - b) A veterinary certificate where required in this IHS, that must include the following:
 - i) A unique consignment identifier.
 - ii) The description, species, and amount of product.
 - iii) The country of origin (or zone as defined by the Code).
 - iv) The name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor).
 - v) The name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian.
 - vi) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the general requirements outlined in Part 1 of this IHS have been met.
 - vii) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the specified requirements outlined in Part 2 of this IHS have been met.
 - c) A manufacturer's declaration where required in this IHS. The manufacturer's declaration must:
 - i) Be prepared by the manufacturer on letterhead paper.
 - ii) Contain the correct statements as required by the import requirements specific to the product.
 - iii) Be signed and dated by the quality manager or equivalent.
- (2) Where equivalent measures have been negotiated and agreed with MPI, and a CTO has, prior to import, approved an equivalent measure under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that is different from those in this standard in the form of a negotiated veterinary certificate, a country-specific veterinary certificate must accompany the consignment.

See guidance document for more information about country-specific veterinary certificates that have been agreed for trade and a model veterinary certificates.

- (3) All documents must:
 - a) Be original, unless otherwise stated.
 - b) Accompany the imported goods.
 - c) Be in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible.

- d) Be endorsed on every page by the Official Veterinarian with their original stamp, signature and date or be endorsed in the space allocated and all pages have paper based alternative security features.

1.7 Transitional facility

- (1) Following biosecurity authorisation being given, the hides and skins (where applicable) must proceed directly to the transitional facility named on the import permit.
- (2) The consignment must meet all the requirements noted in the General Requirements in Part 1, and must be processed to the requirements in Part 2 (Specified Requirements) and in Schedule 3 *Processing Requirements at the Transitional Facility*, of this IHS in order to be eligible for biosecurity clearance.

1.8 Biosecurity clearance

- (1) A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the hides and skins meet all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 in the Act are met.

Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms

See guidance document for more information about hides and skins samples.

2.1 Fully tanned hides and skins

2.1.1 Documentation

- (1) No documentation is required for fully tanned hides and skins.

2.1.2 Requirements

- (1) Consignments of fully tanned hides and skins from any species may be imported from any country without specific requirements.

2.2 Processed hides and skins

2.2.1 Documentation

- (1) Consignments of processed hides and skins must be accompanied by the following documentation:
 - a) A veterinary certificate certifying that the processed hides and skins meet the requirements in clause 2.2.2 of this IHS; or
 - b) A manufacturer's declaration that the processed hides and skins meet the requirements in clause 2.2.2 of this IHS.

2.2.2 Requirements

- (1) Consignments of processed hides and skins must be treated by:
 - a) A liming process at a pH equal to or greater than 12.5; and/or
 - b) A pickling process in a solution of salt and mineral acid at a pH equal to or less than 4.

2.3 Salted or dried hides and skins from specified animals

2.3.1 Documentation

- (1) Consignments of salted or dried hides and skins from specified animals (*see Schedule 2 for definition*) must be accompanied by the following documentation:
 - a) A valid import permit.
 - b) A veterinary certificate certifying that the salted or dried hides and skins meet the requirements in clauses 2.3.2(1) and (2) of this IHS.
 - c) A manufacturer's declaration stating that the salted or dried hides and skins have been packaged in new, clean, and secure packaging that is free from any extraneous contamination.

2.3.2 Requirements

- (1) Consignments of salted or dried hides and skins must originate from animals that have been slaughtered in a government licensed processing establishment.
- (2) Consignments of salted or dried hides and skins from specified animals must meet the following requirements for the specified risk organisms:
 - a) Anthrax requirements:
 - i) Originate from a country or zone officially free from anthrax; or

- ii) Originate from establishments that were not subject to restrictions imposed for the control of anthrax; or
 - iii) Originate from animals that have been slaughtered in a government-licensed processing establishment under the direct supervision of an official veterinarian, subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspection, and certified as fit for human consumption.
- b) Foot and mouth disease (FMD) requirements:
 - i) Originate from a country or zone that is officially free from FMD in accordance with the *Code* and as referenced in the MPI List of FMD-Free Countries or Zones; or
 - ii) Treated for 28 days with salt containing 2% sodium carbonate.
- (3) Salted or dried hides and skins must be directed on arrival by an inspector to the transitional facility listed on the import permit. While in the transitional facility the hides and skins must be processed in accordance with Schedule 3 of this IHS.

2.4 Casualty (slink) skins

2.4.1 Documentation

- (1) Consignments of casualty (slink) skins (*see Schedule 2 for definition*) must be accompanied by the following documentation:
 - a) A valid import permit.
 - b) A veterinary certificate certifying that the casualty skins meet the requirements in clause 2.4.2(1) of this IHS.
 - c) A manufacturer's declaration stating that the casualty skins have been packaged in new, clean, and secure packaging that is free from any extraneous contamination.

2.4.2 Requirements

- (1) Consignments of casualty (slink) skins must meet the following requirements for the specified risk organisms:
 - a) Anthrax requirements:
 - i) Originate from a country or zone officially free from anthrax; or
 - ii) Originate from establishments that were not subject to restrictions imposed for the control of anthrax.
 - b) FMD requirements:
 - i) Originate from a country or zone that is officially free from FMD in accordance with the *Code* and as referenced in the MPI List of FMD-Free Countries or Zones; or
 - ii) Treated for 28 days with salt containing 2% sodium carbonate.
- (2) Casualty skins must be directed on arrival by an inspector to the transitional facility listed on the import permit. While in the transitional facility the skins must be processed in accordance with Schedule 3 of this IHS.

2.5 Macropod hides and skins

2.5.1 Documentation

- (1) Consignments of macropod hides and skins (*see Schedule 2 for definition*) must be accompanied by the following documentation:
 - a) A valid import permit.
 - b) A veterinary certificate certifying that the macropod hides and skins meet the requirements in clause 2.5.2(3) of this IHS.

- c) A manufacturer's declaration stating that the macropod hides and skins have been packaged in new, clean, and secure packaging that is free from any extraneous contamination.

2.5.2 Requirements

- (1) Consignments of macropod hides and skins may only be imported from Australia.
- (2) Consignments of macropod hides and skins may be dried, salted, fresh, frozen or chilled.
- (3) Consignments of macropod hides and skins must meet the following anthrax requirements for the specified risk organisms:
 - a) Originate from a zone officially free from anthrax; or
 - b) Originate from establishments that were not subject to restrictions imposed for the control of anthrax; or
 - c) Originate from animals that have been processed under the *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Game Meat for Human Consumption*, and have passed a post-mortem inspection in a government-licensed processing establishment.
- (4) Macropod hides and skins must be directed on arrival by an inspector to the transitional facility listed on their import permit. While in the transitional facility the skins must be processed in accordance with Schedule 3 of this IHS.

2.6 New Zealand returning hides and skins

2.6.1 Documentation

- (1) Consignments of New Zealand returning hides and skins must be accompanied by documentation which identifies the hides and skins to be of New Zealand origin.

2.6.2 Requirements

- (1) All consignments New Zealand returning hides and skins is eligible for import provided that the product is:
 - a) Identifiable as being of New Zealand origin.
 - b) Packed in the original packaging.
 - c) Free from extraneous organic contamination.

Schedule 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
30 June 2011	Hides and Skins	HIDCOMIC.ALL
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode
7 August 2015	Hides and Skins	HIDESKIN.ALL

Schedule 2 – Definitions

Casualty Skin

A skin derived from a lamb or calf up to the age of 6 months that has died of natural causes, also known as a slink skin.

Competent Authority

The Veterinary or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, that has the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Code* in the whole territory.

CTO Direction

Chief Technical Officer (CTO) Direction - equivalent measures recorded by number 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.

Fully Tanned Hides and Skins

Hides and skins that have undergone a full tanning process so that they are preserved from putrescence and are thermally stable and are ready for use in a manufactured product.

Hides and skins can be tanned using a variety of methods. The many processes involved in tanning are explained in MPI's risk analysis document for hides and skins (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/imports/ihs/risk>). See also wet blues, browns and whites below.

Import Permit

A permit issued by the Director-General of MPI pursuant to section 24D(2) of the Act.

Macropod

A species from the marsupial family Macropodidae which includes kangaroos, wallabies and wallaroos.

MPI

Ministry for Primary Industries.

Official Veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of the OIE *Code* Chapter for certification procedures.

OIE

The World Organisation for Animal Health.

Pickling

The process of soaking a hide or skin in an acid based solution in preparation for tanning.

Processed Hides and Skins

Hides and skins that have been pickled and/or limed, this includes wet whites, wet blues, and wet browns.

Salted or Dried Hides and Skins from Specified Animals

Hides and skins that have been air dried or dry/wet salted derived from the following farmed animals: alpacas, buffalo, cattle, deer, emus, goats, horses, llamas, ostriches, pigs, and sheep.

The Code

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code as found on the OIE website.

Veterinary Certificate

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the *Code* Chapter for certification procedures, describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

Wet Blue

Wet blue hides have been tanned with a chromium salt, which imparts its characteristic colour. It is thermally stable but not usable in this form, requiring further tanning (retanning) before being suitable for end-use.

Wet Brown

Wet brown hides have been tanned with a vegetable tanning agent or agents, which imparts its characteristic colour. It is thermally stable but not usable in this form, requiring further tanning (retanning) before being suitable for end-use.

Wet White

Wet white hides have been tanned with various organic and/or inorganic agents, which leave it white in colour. It is thermally stable but not usable in this form, requiring further tanning (retanning) before being suitable for end-use.

Schedule 3 – Processing Requirements at the Transitional Facility

- (1) This schedule applies to consignments of hides and skins imported to New Zealand that have been authorised to be moved for further processing at the transitional facility listed on the import permit.
- (2) While in the transitional facility, and prior to processing, imported hides and skins must be clearly marked, stored, and handled in accordance with the MPI *Standard for General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Goods*, [MPI-STD-TFGEN](#), issued under section 39(1) of the Act (or any standard that replaces that standard), and any associated requirements listed in Annex F of the guidance document to that standard.
- (3) While in the transitional facility, the facility operator must ensure that the hides and skins be processed (limed and/or pickled) in accordance with clause 2.2.2 of this IHS.
- (4) The facility operator must ensure that all trimmings and solid waste associated with hides and skins are treated, destroyed or disposed of at an approved transitional facility by:
 - a) Rendering; or
 - b) Incineration.
- (5) The facility operator must ensure that all packaging that has been in contact with hides and skins is destroyed or disposed of at an approved transitional facility by:
 - a) Incineration.
- (6) The facility operator must ensure that all effluent generated during processing is:
 - a) Discharged into a municipal sewage system; or
 - b) Discharged into a securely fenced and isolated soak-pit; or
 - c) Treated with a biocide that is listed in the standard known as *MPI Approved Diagnostic Tests, Vaccines, Treatments and Post-Arrival Testing Laboratories for Animal Import Health Standards* (MPI-STD-TVTL).