IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD
FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF OVINE SEMEN FROM AUSTRALIA

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Dated: 23 March 2004

Date: 14 February 2014

The following information relates to Chief Technical Officer Direction: CTO 2014 013 [G]

The statement below, in clause 6.1 of the IHS (and clause 1.2 of the veterinary certificate), is no longer required:

> *The donor animal's parents were also conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived continuously in Australia.*

In regard to the donor animal, MPI continues to require that:

> *For any semen [for export to New Zealand] of a bloodline derived from semen or embryos imported from any country other than New Zealand or South Africa, the semen originated from an animal who was conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived continuously in Australia.*

The risk managed through Australia's disease freedoms and import requirements.

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF animal and animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections that outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, transport and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at

the New Zealand border and, if necessary, in a transitional facility in New Zealand prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand. When MAF has accepted health certification produced by a government authority in the exporting country as meeting the requirements of the model health certification this is noted. When no health certification is required to accompany consignments Part D. will note "none required".

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of ovine semen from Australia.

1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of ovine semen imported into New Zealand from Australia is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 The costs of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of ovine semen shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.

2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or importer's agent.

2.3 The Biosecurity (Imported Animals, Embryo and Semen Information) Regulations 1999 place obligations on owners (including any subsequent owners) or persons in charge of imported sheep, goats, cattle and deer and imported genetic material (semen and embryos) of these species.

2.4 A copy of the Regulations can be obtained from the website: www.legislation.govt.nz

A document explaining obligations can be obtained from Animal Imports and Exports, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

AGM
Animal genetic material including semen and embryos

AQIS
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Biosecurity clearance
As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993

Director Animal Biosecurity
The Director Animal Biosecurity, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Director Animal Biosecurity

Equivalence
Acceptance by the Director Animal Biosecurity that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard

Flock of origin
The flock in which the donor animal resided prior to entering the semen collection centre. If the donor animal has been on the semen collection centre for more than 90 days the semen collection centre can be deemed to be the flock of origin

IETS *Manual*
Manual of the International Embryo Transfer Society (1998)

Inspector
As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993

MAF
The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Official Veterinarian
An official veterinarian means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of the chapter of the OIE *Code* pertaining to principles of certification

OIE *Code*
The Office International des Epizooties *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*

4 EQUIVALENCE

This import health standard is in accordance with agreements between the exporting country and New Zealand. Biosecurity clearance will not normally be given to a consignment that does not

meet the requirements of this import health standard in every respect.

Occasionally it is found that due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter a consignment does not comply with the requirements of this import health standard. In such cases, an application for equivalence submitted prior to importation will be considered and may be given at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity if the following information is provided by the exporting country's government veterinary authority:

4.1 the clause(s) of the import health standard that cannot be met and how this has occurred;

4.2 the reason(s) why the consignment may be considered of equivalent health status to a consignment complying with this import health standard, and/or what proposal is made to achieve an equivalent health status;

4.3 the reason(s) why the veterinary authority believes this proposal should be acceptable to MAF and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

5.1 A permit to import must be obtained from Animal Imports and Exports, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

5.2 The importer must supply the following information:

- 5.2.1 name and address of exporter
- 5.2.2 name, address and approval/registration number of the semen collection centre
- 5.2.3 species of donor animal(s)
- 5.2.4 number of straws to be imported
- 5.2.5 name and address of importer.

5.3 The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment. Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard which describes the conditions under which the semen may be imported into New Zealand.

6 ELIGIBILITY

6.1 For any semen of a bloodline derived from semen or embryos imported from any country other than New Zealand or South Africa, the semen originated from an animal who was conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived continuously in Australia. The donor animal's parents were also conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived

continuously in Australia.

6.2 The period for collection of semen must not exceed 60 days.

6.3 Only frozen ovine semen is eligible for importation under this import health standard.

6.4 All requirements of this import health standard, including those detailed in the Model Zoosanitary Certificate must be met for the commodity to be eligible for importation.

7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

7.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by the permit to import and all appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirements of PART D. Zoosanitary Certification. The required documentation consists of:

7.1.1 Zoosanitary Certificate with attached laboratory test results for those tests specified in the Zoosanitary Certificate.

7.1.2 Import permit

7.2 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or cause the rejection of consignments.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

8 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

8.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment.

8.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 and the consignment released to the importer.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

9. NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF to accompany imports of ovine semen into New Zealand from Australia:

MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Commodity: OVINE SEMEN
To: NEW ZEALAND

Import Permit Number: .....

Exporting Country: AUSTRALIA

Competent Authority: .....

I. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DONOR ANIMALS AND SEMEN

Breed	Identification	Date of birth	Date(s) of collection (batch number)	Straw identification	Number of straws

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

II. ORIGIN OF THE SEMEN

Name, address and approval/registration number of semen collection centre: .....

.....

Name and address of owner: .....

.....

Name and address of exporter: .....

.....

III. DESTINATION OF SEMEN

Name and address of importer: .....

.....

IV. SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I, ... : an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Australian government certify, after due enquiry, with respect to the donor animals and semen identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1 Donor animals and semen collection centre

1.1 The donor animals:

Either: 1.1.1 were born in and lived continuously in Australia

Or: 1.1.2 were imported into Australia from New Zealand.

(Delete as appropriate)

1.2 For any semen for export to New Zealand of a bloodline derived from semen or embryos imported from any country other than New Zealand or South Africa, the semen originated from animals that were conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived continuously in Australia. The donor animal's parents were also conceived (using non-imported semen), born and lived continuously in Australia.

1.3 The flock(s) of origin of the donor animals and the semen collection centre were free from any quarantine restrictions from 90 days before the first semen collection until completion of the testing of the donor animals as required by this certificate.

1.4 The donor animals were held in the semen collection centre for a continuous period of at least 30 days before the collection of semen for this consignment and until the testing specified in this certificate was completed. During this time they were not used for natural mating and were isolated from animals not of equivalent health status.

1.5 The centre is approved by AQIS for collection of semen for export, and inspected at least annually during the breeding season by an Official Veterinarian.

Date of last inspection: .....

2 Semen collection

2.1 The period of semen collection(s) for this consignment was 60 days or less.

2.2 On the day(s) of collection of semen, the donor animals were examined by the team veterinarian and were free from any clinical evidence of infectious diseases caused by micro-organisms transmissible in semen.

2.3 The semen was collected under the supervision of an AQIS approved semen collection centre veterinarian in accordance with the OIE *Code,* Appendix for small ruminant semen.

2.4 Antibiotics effective against *Leptospira* and *Mycoplasma* spp. were added to the diluent. The names and concentrations of antibiotics included in the semen diluent are as follows:
.....
.....

3 Testing and treatment of donor animals

3.1 For bluetongue virus (BT):

(**NB**: indicate which option was followed, test used and date(s) of sampling)

Either 3.1.1 When importing from BT virus free zones (as defined by the OIE *Code*):

Either 3.1.1.1 The donor animals were kept in a BT free zone for at least the 100 days prior to, and during, collection of the semen;

Or 3.1.1.2 The donor animals were subjected to serological tests to detect antibodies to BT, such as the competitive ELISA or the agar gel immunodiffusion test (AGID), between 28 and 60 days after the last collection for this consignment, with negative results;

Or 3.1.1.3 The donor animals were subjected to tests for BT, such as a virus isolation test or a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test on blood samples collected at commencement and conclusion of, and at least every 7 days (for virus isolation test) or at least every 28 days (for PCR test) during, semen collection for this consignment, with negative results.

Test used: .....
Date(s) of sample collection:.....

Or 3.1.2 When importing from BT virus seasonally free zones (as defined by the OIE *Code*):

Either 3.1.2.1 The donor animals were kept during the seasonally free period in a BT virus seasonally free zone for at least the 100 days prior to commencement of, and during, semen collection;

Or 3.1.2.2 The donor animals were subjected to serological tests to detect antibodies to BT, such as the competitive ELISA or the AGID test, between 28 and 60 days after the final collection for this consignment, with negative results;

Or 3.1.2.3 The donor animals were subjected to tests for BT, such as a virus isolation test or a PCR test on blood samples collected

at commencement and conclusion of, and at least every 7 days (for virus isolation test) or at least every 28 days (for PCR test) during, semen collection for this consignment, with negative results.

Test used: .....
Date(s) of sample collection:.....

Or 3.1.3 When importing from BT virus infected zones (as defined by the OIE *Code*):

Either 3.1.3.1 The donor animals were protected from *Culicoides* attack for at least the 100 days prior to commencement of, and during, semen collection;

Or 3.1.3.2 The donor animals were subjected to serological tests to detect antibodies to BT, such as the competitive ELISA or AGID test, between 28 days and 60 days after the final collection for this consignment, with negative results;

Or 3.1.3.3 The donor animals were subjected to tests for BT, such as a virus isolation test or PCR test on blood samples collected at commencement and conclusion of, and at least every 7 days (for virus isolation test) or at least every 28 days (for PCR test) during, semen collection for this consignment, with negative results.

Test used: .....
Date(s) of sample collection:.....

(Delete as appropriate)

3.2 For Q fever: Between 10 and 30 days after the final collection of semen for export to New Zealand, the donor animals were tested with negative results for Q fever using either the complement fixation test (CFT) (negative being no fixation of complement at a dilution of 1:10 or higher) or the ELISA.

Test used: .....
Date of sample collection: .....

3.3 All testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by AQIS to conduct export testing and laboratory results for tests specified in this certificate are attached.

4 Storage and transport

4.1 All straws are clearly marked with the identification of the donor animal and the date of collection. If a code is used for this information, its decipher must accompany the consignment.

4.2 The semen was stored only with other semen or embryos that were eligible for export to New Zealand. The containers were held in an approved storage place under the supervision of AQIS until export.

4.3 The semen was placed in new or sterilised transport containers filled with fresh (previously unused) liquid nitrogen.

Method of sterilisation (if applicable): .....
Date of sterilisation (if applicable): .....

4.4 Prior to export, the container in which the semen is to be transported was sealed by either the semen collection centre veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian, using seals bearing the marks:

.....

.....
Signature of Official Veterinarian Official stamp and date

Name and address of office:.....

.....

NB. Official stamp must be applied to all pages