

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF SPECIFIC PATHOGEN FREE CHICKEN (*GALLUS GALLUS*) EGGS FOR LABORATORY USE INTO NEW ZEALAND FROM AUSTRALIA

**Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Dated: June 2008**

USER GUIDE

The information in MAFBNZ 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 MAFBNZ 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 MAFBNZ 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 is the import health standard for the importation of Specific Pathogen Free chicken (*Gallus gallus*) eggs for Laboratory

use into New Zealand from Australia.

- 1.2 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 Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 All costs associated with the importation, which include selection, pre-export isolation, testing, treatment, transport, quarantine, servicing and veterinary supervision must be borne by the importer or agent as appropriate.
- 2.2 Details of transport and arrival times must be supplied to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand approved veterinarian at the port of entry not less than 7 days in advance of arrival of the eggs.

3 EQUIVALENCE

The import health standard has been agreed as being suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the eggs will meet the conditions in every respect.

Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the importer's control, the eggs may not comply completely with the requirements. In such cases an application for equivalence will be considered and may be issued at the discretion of Biosecurity New Zealand, but only if the following information is forwarded by the quarantine authority of the approved country.

- 3.1 Which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred.
- 3.2 The reason the eggs are considered to be of an "equivalent health" status and/or what proposal is made to return the eggs to an equivalent health status as set-out in the health conditions.
- 3.3 The reasons why the quarantine authority of the approved country believes this proposal should be acceptable to Biosecurity New Zealand and their recommendation for its acceptance.

4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

AQIS

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services

Biosecurity Standards Group Manager

The Biosecurity Standards Group Manager, 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 Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

Equivalence

Acceptance by the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager 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

Defined as all the birds resident on an establishment under common management or operation and includes any properties which share personnel, equipment or managerial expertise.

MAFBNZ

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand.

ND/NAI infected zone

Newcastle Disease/Notifiable Avian Influenza infected zone. As defined in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

NAI

Notifiable Avian Influenza as defined in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

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

World Organisation for Animal Health.

OIE Code

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

5.1 A permit to import is required for the importation of specific pathogen free eggs for MAFBNZ Reference Laboratory use into New Zealand from Australia.

Application must be made in writing for a permit to import, at least 30 days prior to the proposed date of importation. Applications should be made to: Animal Imports,

Border Standards Directorate, Biosecurity New Zealand, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

- 5.2 The permit to import will be issued for multiple consignments over a period of up to 12 months.
- 5.3 Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard which describes the conditions under which the specific pathogen free eggs for Laboratory use may be imported into New Zealand.

6 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER

Prior to issue of the permit to import, the importer shall supply the following information:

- 6.1 Name and address of exporter,
- 6.2 Number of eggs proposed to be imported,
- 6.3 Date of the proposed importation, and port of arrival,
- 6.4 The name and address of the post-arrival transitional facility in New Zealand, approved under *MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.17 for Transitional Facilities for Biological Products*.

7 REVIEW OF IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

The import health standard may be reviewed and amended if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy, or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other reason, at the discretion of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

8 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

The permit to import, together with all the required information and ORIGINAL certification, which must be in English, must accompany the consignment to New Zealand. The following documentation is required:

- 8.1 Zoo-sanitary Certificate,
- 8.2 Veterinary Certificate A,
- 8.3 Veterinary Certificate B.
- 8.4 Pre-export laboratory test results
- 8.5 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 rejection of consignments

9 ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION

- 9.1 The flock of origin shall maintain an extensive testing programme based on the European Pharmacopoeia Standard which requires 5% of samples every 4 weeks and 100% testing before point of lay; additional testing of 20 samples each week; and a regular testing programme of faeces, water and feed.
- 9.2 All intake air into the premises in which the flock of origin is kept shall be HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filtered; the feed shall be gamma irradiated; and the water sterilized.
- 9.3 Staff shall shower before entering the premises.
- 9.4 There shall be no commercial poultry operation within 10 km of the flock of origin.

10 IDENTIFICATION

- 10.1 Every consignment of specific pathogen free eggs for laboratory use must be clearly identified and the identification recorded in the zoo-sanitary certificate.

11 PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

- 11.1 The flock of origin from which the eggs for export to New Zealand are to be selected must have been farmed as a closed flock since hatching.
- 11.2 The eggs to be exported to New Zealand must have been laid in Australia from birds that have been continuously resident in Australia since hatching;
- 11.3 The birds producing the specific pathogen free eggs must have been kept isolated from all other birds not of an equivalent health status.
- 11.4 Staff working with the specific pathogen free eggs selected for export to New Zealand must have had no contact with other birds 21 days prior to and during the pre-export isolation period.
- 11.5 The flock of origin must have been held, under supervision of an Official Veterinarian, for at least 30 days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export in isolation facilities approved by AQIS.
- 11.6 During the period of supervision by the Official Veterinarian, all deaths or illnesses must have been investigated.

12 VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATION

- 12.1 The animal health tests and treatments required are stated in Veterinary Certificate A.
- 12.2 The flock of origin from which each batch of eggs is selected for export for New Zealand shall have been tested within 4 weeks prior to export as specified in clause 9.1 for each of the following diseases:
- Avian adenovirus type I; avian encephalomyelitis; infectious bronchitis virus; infectious laryngotracheitis virus; avian leucosis virus antibody; avian leucosis virus antigen; avian nephritis virus; avian reovirus; reticuloendotheliosis virus; chicken anaemia virus; avian adenovirus (Gp3) EDS; infectious bursal disease; notifiable avian influenza (NAI) virus; Marek's disease virus; Newcastle disease (ND) virus; *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*; *Mycoplasma synoviae*; *Salmonella pullorum* & *S. gallinarum*; *Salmonella* species
- 12.3 All tests must be conducted at a government laboratory or government approved laboratory.
- 12.4 If any bird tests positive to NAI or ND during pre-export isolation, the shipment is to be terminated.
- 12.5 AQIS must immediately notify the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager of all test failures.

13 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

- 13.1 Details of transport and arrival times must be supplied to the Veterinary Officer at the airport of entry not less than 7 days in advance of importation.
- 13.2 The eggs may only be unloaded at the New Zealand airport stated on the permit to import.
- 13.3 On departure from the pre-export isolation premises, the eggs must be placed in transport crates which are either newly constructed for the purpose or which have been cleaned and disinfected using an officially approved disinfectant.
- 13.4 The vehicles in which the crated eggs are transported from the approved pre-export isolation premises to the port of departure must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected using an officially approved virucidal disinfectant.
- 13.5 The official veterinary officer will confirm after due enquiry that the eggs were placed into spill proof containers and sealed into clean and disinfected crates inside the facilities before dispatch.
- 13.6 The eggs must remain sealed in their crates throughout the journey from the pre-export isolation facility until arrival into the post-arrival transitional facility in New Zealand.

PART C: CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

14 BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

- 14.1 On arrival in New Zealand, provided the documentation is in order, a biosecurity direction will be issued by an Inspector under sections 25, 26, 27 & 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 allowing the eggs to be moved to the transitional facility named on the permit to import.
- 14.2 The eggs must be transported from the port of arrival in New Zealand to the transitional facility named on the permit to import by a method and route approved by the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.
- 14.3 Vehicles must not transport any other birds or hatching eggs while being used to transport the crates to the transitional facility.

15 TRANSITIONAL FACILITY

- 15.1 The eggs and any resultant chickens will not be permitted to leave the transitional facility except with the express permission of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.
- 15.2 The transitional facility is required to be approved to MAFBNZ Standard 154.02.17 Transitional Facilities for Biological Products; and operate at a minimum physical containment level 2 (PC2).
- 15.3 The eggs and any resultant chickens shall remain within an approved transitional facility and shall be destroyed at the conclusion of all work, triple bagged and incinerated at the conclusion of all work at the importer's expense.

16 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

The specific pathogen free eggs or any resultant chickens for laboratory use shall not be issued a biosecurity clearance.

ZOO-SANITARY CERTIFICATE:

Species: SPECIFIC PATHOGEN FREE EGGS FOR LABORATORY USE

To: NEW ZEALAND

Import Permit No

Approved Exporting Country:

Ministry/Department:.....

Region:.....

I: IDENTIFICATION OF EGGS

Identification	Official government seals marks/ numbers:
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Total number of eggs :

II: ORIGIN OF THE EGGS :

Name(s) and address(es) of exporter(s):

.....

Place(s) of origin of eggs :

Airport of embarkation:

III: DESTINATION OF EGGS :

Name and address of consignee:.....

.....

Means of transport:

Airport of arrival:

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A

I,being the Official Veterinarian supervising pre-export isolation certify after due enquiry, with respect to the flock of origin of the specific pathogen free eggs identified in this certificate, that:

1 PRE-EXPORT ISOLATION

- 1.1 The flock of origin from which the eggs for export to New Zealand have been selected has been farmed as a closed flock since hatching.
- 1.2 The eggs to be exported to New Zealand have been laid in Australia by birds that have been continuously resident in Australia since hatching.
- 1.3 The birds producing the specific pathogen free eggs have been kept isolated from all other birds not of an equivalent health status.
- 1.4 Staff working with the specific pathogen free eggs selected for export to New Zealand have had no contact with other birds 21 days prior to and during the pre-export isolation period.
- 1.5 The flock of origin has been held, under supervision of an Official Veterinarian, for at least 30 days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export in isolation facilities approved AQIS.
- 1.6 During the period of supervision by the Official Veterinarian, all deaths or illnesses have been investigated.

2 PRE-EXPORT TESTING

- 2.1 The specific pathogen free eggs:
 - 2.1.1 have been disinfected in accordance with the OIE standards;
 - 2.1.2 come from establishments or hatcheries which are regularly inspected by AQIS;
 - 2.1.3 come from establishments or hatcheries free from ND and NAI and not situated in or within 10 kms of a ND or HPAI infected zone;
 - 2.1.4 The birds in the flock of origin showed no clinical signs of ND or NAI on the day of shipment.
 - 2.1.5 The birds have not been vaccinated against ND or NAI.
- 2.2 The flock of origin from which each batch of eggs are selected for export for New Zealand have been tested within 4 weeks prior to export using one of the test options

specified below for each of the following diseases with negative results:

	Test
Avian adenovirus type I	AGP
Avian encephalomyelitis	ELISA
Infectious bronchitis virus	ELISA
Infectious laryngotracheitis virus	SN/AG/ELISA/AGP
Avian leucosis virus antibody	ELISA
Avian leucosis virus antigen	ELISA
Avian nephritis virus	IFA
Avian reovirus	ELISA
Reticuloendotheliosis virus	AGP
Avian adenovirus (Gp3) EDS	HI
Infectious bursal disease	ELISA
Avian influenza virus (all 15 haemagglutinin subtypes)	ELISA*
Marek's disease virus	AGP
Newcastle disease virus	HI/ELISA/AGP
<i>Mycoplasma gallisepticum</i>	RSA
<i>Mycoplasma synoviae</i>	RSA
<i>Salmonella pullorum</i> & <i>S. gallinarum</i>	RSA
<i>Salmonella</i> species	Isolation

(* In the case of birds with test results that were positive or inconclusive, a further sample was taken and retested by an ELISA that is able to detect all 15 haemagglutinin subtypes. Any birds positive to this repeat test had cloacal swabs taken for virus isolation and were found to be free of avian influenza viruses.)

2.3 All pre-export laboratory testing results are attached to this certification.

3 TRANSPORT TO THE PORT OF DEPARTURE

3.1 The official veterinary officer has confirmed after due enquiry that the eggs were placed into spill proof containers and sealed into clean and disinfected crates inside the facilities before dispatch.

3.2 The crates are either new or have been disinfected using an officially approved virucidal disinfectant before loading of the birds.

3.3 The vehicles in which the eggs will be transported from the isolation premises to the port of departure were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using an officially approved virucidal disinfectant.

3.4 Prior to dispatch from the pre-export isolation facility the transport crates containing the eggs were sealed using official government seals which bear the marks/ numbers:

.....
Signature of Official Veterinarian

.....
Official stamp and date

.....
.....
Name and address

Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages.

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