

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF WHITE RHINOCEROSSES INTO NEW ZEALAND FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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 of white rhinoceroses from the Republic of South Africa into New Zealand.
- 1.2 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are any 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 of Animal Biosecurity.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The importer must obtain a permit to import prior to proceeding with importation (See PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE).
- 2.2 The costs of the MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of white rhinoceroses shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.3 All costs involved with documentation, transport, and obtaining a biosecurity direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

biosecurity direction

Direction or authorisation given by an Inspector for uncleared goods to proceed to a transitional or a containment facility.

biosecurity clearance

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Director of Animal Biosecurity

The Director of 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 of Animal Biosecurity.

equivalence

Acceptance by the Director of 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.

Inspector

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

MAF

New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Official Veterinarian

Means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the exporting country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.2 of the OIE International Animal Health Code.

Veterinary Officer

A registered veterinarian who is an inspector under the Biosecurity Act employed either by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry or by a supplier contracted to provide services to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

transitional facility

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

4 EQUIVALENCE

This import health standard is in accordance with agreements between the exporting country and New Zealand. Biosecurity clearance must 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 must be considered and may be given at the discretion of the Director of Animal Biosecurity, if the following information is provided by the exporting country's government veterinary authority:

- 4.1 which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- 4.2 the reason/s 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 the Director of Animal Biosecurity and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

5.1 A permit to import is required for all consignments of white rhinoceroses imported into New Zealand. Application for a permit shall be made at least 30 days prior to the proposed date of importation in writing to the Director of Animal Biosecurity, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

5.2 An application for a permit to import shall provide the following information:

- (i) name and address of importer
- (ii) name and address of exporter
- (iii) description and numbers of animals to be imported
- (iv) date of the proposed importation
- (v) name and address of the low security quarantine transitional facility to which the consignment is to proceed following importation
- (vi) a letter from the authorised supervisor of the low security quarantine transitional facility stating that the facility is registered and is available for the dates proposed and has the capacity to accommodate the consignment proposed to be imported
- (vii) the transport method and route during importation into New Zealand, which must be in accordance with all requirements for **AIR TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND** (section 8) in this import health standard, and evidence of transit authority from countries on the transport route
- (viii) the transport method and route during transfer from the port of arrival in New Zealand to the transitional facility.

5.3 A permit to import must be granted for a single consignment only.

6 ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION

6.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to the members of the family Rhinocerotidae.

6.2 The animals were born and have been continuously resident in a government registered, or licensed, zoo or wildlife park.

6.3 Animals must not be in the last trimester of pregnancy at the date of export.

7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

7.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of PART D: ZOO SANITARY CERTIFICATION.

7.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English)

7.3 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 or rejection of the consignment.

[NOTE: Any requirement for the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) or other conservation related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer but is independent of this certification requirement.]

8 AIR TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

8.1 The animal must be in an approved container which meets the International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

8.2 No animals other than those qualified for entry into Australia or New Zealand are permitted to be carried on the aircraft.

8.3 Any hay, straw or other vegetable matter loaded for use as feed or bedding during transport by air, was sterilised by autoclaving prior to loading.

8.4 The door of the transport container must be sealed with a government approved seal before the container is loaded into the aircraft in the country of origin. The number or mark on the seal must be recorded in Veterinary Certificate B by the Official Veterinarian. The construction of the container and the placement of the seal must be such that the container cannot be readily opened without breaking the seal. If the container is opened during shipment it shall be re-sealed and a certificate detailing the circumstances provided by an Official Veterinarian, Port Authority, or Captain of the aircraft. Instructions to this effect should be attached to the outside of the transport container.

8.5 The route must be approved by the Director of Animal Biosecurity. Trans-shipment must also require the specific authorisation of the government veterinary authority of the country in which trans-shipment occurs. The importer is responsible for organising

- and obtaining these authorisations.
- 8.6 Details of transport and arrival times must be supplied to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport of entry not less than 7 days in advance of importation, indicating the expected time of arrival of the animals and the flight number.
- 8.7 An Australian or New Zealand Official Veterinarian must oversee the pre-export quarantine and/or accompany the shipment to Australia at the importer's expense. Export/Import must take place between 31 July and 31 October.
- 8.8 A New Zealand Official Veterinarian or a experienced animal handler must travel with the animals destined for New Zealand once the animals for Australia are off loaded.
- 8.9 During off loading of the animals destined for Australia, the remaining animals destined to New Zealand must be protected from insects and contact with other animals. The aircraft must be sprayed with an insecticide immediately prior to departure from any stopover.

PART C: CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

9 BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

- 9.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the animal must be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment.
- 9.2 A biosecurity direction may be given by an Inspector under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 authorising the animal to move to the low security quarantine transitional facility named in the permit to import, providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D: ZOO SANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY.
- 9.3 Any unused feed, bedding and faecal material not in the crate must be destroyed by incineration.

10 TRANSITIONAL FACILITY

- 10.1 Following biosecurity direction being given, the animal must proceed to the approved registered transitional facility.
- 10.2 The animal shall remain in the transitional facility for no less than 60 days, or for a longer period if required by the Director of Animal Biosecurity.
- 10.3 On arrival in the transitional facility the animal must be subjected to such testing, treatments or procedures required by the Director of Animal Biosecurity, including:

- 10.3.1 Before it is released from the container, the animal shall be closely inspected by a Veterinary Officer for ticks. The inspection must include examination of the external ears, under the tail, the axillae and around the genitals and udder. Any ticks found shall be identified and their presence reported to the Director of Animal Biosecurity.
- 10.3.2 Prior to treatment for internal and external parasites with an approved anthelmintic and acaricide, a faecal sample shall be taken and submitted to the National Centre for Disease Investigation (NCDI) for parasitological examination.
- 10.3.3 Such other tests, treatments or procedures as are reasonably necessary to determine the health status of the consignment.
- 10.4 All costs of testing, treatment, transport, quarantine servicing and veterinary supervision must be borne by the importer.
- 10.5 The crates must be cleaned and disinfected and stored until the end of quarantine. All feed, bedding material and faeces must be destroyed by incineration.
- 10.6 All faecal material from the rhinoceroses is to be collected and destroyed by incineration for 7 days after arrival in New Zealand.
- 10.7 If any animal fails a test or shows signs of disease, that animal and any or all other animals in the post-arrival quarantine premises may, at the Director of Animal Biosecurity's discretion, be detained in quarantine for further testing and/or observation, or exported at the importer's expense, or destroyed without recompense.
- 10.8 On satisfactory completion of the post arrival quarantine period, and on the written confirmation from the Director of Animal Biosecurity, the supervising Veterinary Officer will authorise the animal to be moved from the transitional facility to a permanent containment facility at the importing zoo.
- 10.9 The animal and all of its offspring must remain permanently in a registered zoo, and can only be transferred to another zoo with the prior permission of the Director of Animal Biosecurity.

PART D : ZOO SANITARY CERTIFICATE

Species: WHITE RHINOCEROSSES

To: NEW ZEALAND

Permit to Import No.

Exporting Country: REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Service:

Region:

I: IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

- 1 Microchip/tattoo (delete one) identification number:
- 2 Site of microchip/tattoo (delete one):
- 3 Other identification (eg. ARKS number):
- 4 Species:
- 5 Sex:
- 6 Date of birth:
- 7 Total number of animals :

II: ORIGIN OF THE ANIMALS

- 1 Name and address of exporter:
- 2 Place of origin of animal:
- 3 Port of embarkation:

III: DESTINATION OF ANIMALS

- 1 Name and address of consignee:
- 2 Flight number:
- 3 Port of arrival:

IV: SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE - A

I,.....being a registered veterinarian and authorised to provide veterinary services to the government registered zoo or wildlife park named in section II, certify with respect to the animal identified in the attached Zoo-Sanitary Certificate that:

1. The white rhinoceroses originate from, and have always lived in an area or areas free from tsetse flies.
2. Bovine tuberculosis, heartwater and trypanosomiasis due to *Trypanosoma vivax* have not been diagnosed in rhinoceroses in the source population/s during the past 5 years. As far as can be determined, no case of Rift Valley fever has been diagnosed within 100 kms of the pre-export premises (PEQ), in any species, during the past 30 days.
3. The animals were held in PEQ :
 - 3.1 in premises which were approved by an Official Veterinarian for holding animals for export to New Zealand
 - 3.2 for a minimum period of 60 days prior to export.
4. At the time of capture or during PEQ, blood samples were taken from each animal and subjected:
 - 4.1 at Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI), to testing by DNA probes for *Cowdria ruminantium* with negative results, and
 - 4.2 at an approved laboratory, to pCS20 based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay for *Cowdria ruminantium* with negative results.
5. At the time of capture or during PEQ, blood samples were taken from each animal and tested at OVI, with results indicating none of the animals was infected, for:
 - 5.1 foot and mouth disease using an ELISA or virus neutralisation tests for SAT types 1,2 and 3
 - 5.2 African horse sickness using an ELISA or virus neutralisation tests for each serotype.
6. At the time of capture or during PEQ and again not less than 30 days later, blood samples were taken from each animal and tested at OVI, with results indicating none of the animals was infected, for:

6.1 bovine tuberculosis using an ELISA and a PCR assay.

7. Not more than 60 days prior to the scheduled date of export, blood was collected from each animal. Blood samples were pooled from not more than 6 animals. Each pooled sample was inoculated into at least two sheep, which were subsequently monitored clinically for not less than 30 days. Any disease occurring in any sheep was investigated thoroughly and no evidence was found that OIE List A or List B diseases had been transmitted to the sheep. The sheep were tested serologically for heartwater after 30 days with negative results.

8. Each animal was treated with a broad spectrum parasiticide effective against ticks on entry into the PEQ premises, and repeated as often as necessary during PEQ, to ensure the animals remained free from ticks. The final treatment was at or near the time of loading the animals for export to New Zealand.

Name of products:
Active ingredients:
Dose:.....

9. At the time of capture and/or during PEQ, each animal was treated with:

- either 7.1 1% doramectin at a dose rate of 1 ml per 50 kg by intramuscular injection
- or 7.2 1% ivermectin orally or by subcutaneous injection
- or 7.3 fenbendazole concentrate powder incorporated into feed pellets at a rate of 1 kg/tonne; the medicated pellets were fed for not less than 2 weeks.

10. During the last 10 days of PEQ, each animal was protected against insects by the appropriate use of insecticides or insect repellants.

11. Each animal was examined by an Official Veterinarian within 24 hours prior to leaving the PEQ premises for the port of export, and was free from clinical evidence of infectious or contagious disease, and external parasites, and appeared to be fit to travel. Each animal was thoroughly re-examined for the presence of ticks after being tranquilised for loading and found to be free from ticks.

12. The vehicles for the transport of the animals to the port of export were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. The containers used for transporting the animals were new or were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading. Containers constructed of timber were treated against insect infestation or fumigated prior to loading as required by MAF.

13. During transport to the port of export and during loading, the animals were protected from insects. They were not exposed to animals not eligible for export to Australia

and New Zealand in transit.

- 14. The compartment of the aircraft or vessel to be occupied by the animals, and all removable equipment, penning and containers, including loading ramps were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading.
- 15. Any hay, straw or other vegetable matter loaded for use as feed or bedding during transport by air was sterilised by autoclaving prior to loading.
- 16. At the time of loading, each animal appeared healthy and fit to travel.

.....
Name of registered veterinarian

.....
Signature

.....
Date of signature

Name and address of office:

.....

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VETERINARY CERTIFICATE - B

I,..... the Official Veterinarian at the port of export of the animal for export to New Zealand identified in the attached Zoo-Sanitary Certificate, certify, after due enquiry, that:

- 1. The Republic of South Africa is free from rinderpest, peste des petits ruminants, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and glanders.
- 2. At the time of export the animal was inspected and found to be healthy and fit to travel, and free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.
- 3. The veterinarian certifying Veterinary Certificate A is a registered veterinarian in the country of origin.
- 4. All the required documents were examined and found to be correctly completed in accordance with the New Zealand import health standard requirements.
- 5. The animal was placed in a container that met IATA standards, detailed in section 8 **Air Transport to New Zealand** of the import health standard. The container was fastened with an official seal bearing the number or mark:

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.....
Official Port Veterinarian Official stamp and date

Name and address of office:
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