

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR EQUINE SEMEN FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 01 August 2007

Regarding clause 3.3 of the Veterinary Certificate:

The antibiotic combinations, at the concentrations listed below, have been accepted as equivalent to the Import Health Standard requirements, and may be added to the semen after final dilution.

- Ticarcillin at 1.2 mg/mL
- Ticarcillin at 1.0 mg/mL and Amikacin 0.5 mg/mL (Timentin® at 1.0mg/mL)
- Gentamycin at 50 mg/L

All other requirements of the IHS must be met.

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF BNZ 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 BNZ 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 that must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and must accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

Part E. APPENDIX contains a veterinary declaration.

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 equine semen from the EU.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of equine semen imported into New Zealand from the EU 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 any EU country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Biosecurity Standards Group Manager.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs of MAF BNZ in performing functions relating to the importation of equine 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 agent.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Biosecurity clearance

A clearance under section 26 of the Biosecurity Act (1993) for the entry of goods into New Zealand. (Explanatory Note: Goods given a Biosecurity Clearance by an Inspector are released to the importer without restriction).

Imports Standards Group Manager

The Imports Standards Group Manager, MAF BNZ, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Imports Standards Group Manager

Equine semen

Semen from either domesticated horses (*Equus caballus*) or donkeys (*Equus asinus*)

EU

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and United Kingdom

MAF BNZ

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Biosecurity New Zealand

New Zealand inspector

A person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Official Veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration 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 chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* pertaining to principles of certification

Terrestrial Code

The World Organization for Animal Health. 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 Imports Standards Group Manager 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 BNZ and their recommendation for its acceptance.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 Importations of equine semen into New Zealand from the EU that meet the requirements of this Import Health Standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

6 ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 The equine semen must be in straws. Semen in pellets is not eligible for importation.
- 6.2 Fresh/chilled or frozen equine semen is eligible for importation.
- 6.3 All straws must be clearly marked with the identification of the donor stallion and the date of semen collection. If a code is used for this information, its decipher must accompany the consignment.

7 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 7.1 The consignment must be accompanied by an appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirements of PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION. The laboratory results for the tests specified in the Zoosanitary Certificate must be attached.
- 7.2 Documentation must be in English but may be bilingual with the language understood by the Official Veterinarian of the exporting country. The second language must be written below the English on the same certificate, and in the event of any differences the English version will prevail.
- 7.3 The Official Veterinarian of the exporting country must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate and any documents that form part of the extended certificate, using a different colour ink to the paper and print.
- 7.4 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 the consignment.

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, or a sample of 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.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

9 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

- 9.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF BNZ to accompany imports of equine semen into New Zealand from the EU.

MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

Commodity: EQUINE SEMEN

To: NEW ZEALAND

Exporting EU Country:

Competent Authority:.....

Species:.....

I. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DONOR STALLIONS

Identification of donor (including name)	Breed	Date of birth	Country of birth

II. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SEMEN

Identification of donor	Date(s) of collection (including batch number)	Straw identification	Number of straws

Total number of straws in consignment:

III: ORIGIN OF THE EQUINE SEMEN

Name and address of owner of the stallions:

Name and address of exporter of the semen:.....

Name, address and registration number of approved semen collection centre:

IV: DESTINATION OF THE EQUINE SEMEN

Name and address of importer:.....

Airport semen despatched from:.....

V: SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I,, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Authority of..... (exporting EU country) certify, with respect to the donor stallions and semen identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1. COUNTRY/REGION DISEASE FREEDOM AND RESIDENCY

- 1.1 The exporting country is free of African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis according to the criteria in the *Terrestrial Code*.
- 1.2 The donor stallions were resident for the period specified in brackets, immediately prior to semen collection, in a country (or zone, where appropriate) that is free from the following diseases:
- contagious equine metritis (since birth)
 - glanders according to the criteria in the *Terrestrial Code* (6 months)
 - dourine according to the criteria in the *Terrestrial Code* (6 months).

(NB: Delete whichever is not applicable. Residency periods and tests/treatments must be undertaken for all the diseases that have been deleted. Where the donor stallion complies with the specific residency requirement in 1.2 the test for that disease is not required.)

2. DONOR MALES AND SEMEN COLLECTION CENTRE

- 2.1 The donor stallions were resident for the period specified in brackets, immediately prior to semen collection, on premises where none of the following diseases has occurred during that period:
- equine infectious anaemia (3 months)
 - equine viral arteritis (30 days)
 - contagious equine metritis (2 months)
 - glanders (6 months)
 - *Salmonella abortus-equi* (3 months)
 - dourine (6 months).
- 2.1 During the 30 days immediately prior to semen collection the donor stallions were resident on a premise where equine viral arteritis (EVA) shedder stallions were not known to have been present.

2.2 The donor stallions were resident at the time of collection on a semen collection centre approved and supervised by the Competent Authority according to the conditions of Annex D of Directive 92/65/EEC as last amended.

Date centre last inspected by an official veterinarian:
Date stallion entered the semen collection centre:

3 SEMEN COLLECTION

3.1 On the day(s) of collection of semen, the donor stallions were free from any evidence of infectious diseases caused by micro-organisms transmissible in semen.

3.2 The semen was collected, processed and stored in accordance with the conditions of Annex D of Directive 92/65/EEC as last amended.

3.3 Antibiotics effective against *Leptospira* were added to the diluent/extender.

The names and concentrations of antibiotics included in the semen diluent/extender are as follows:

.....
.....

3.4 Immediately after the addition of the antibiotics, the diluted semen was kept at a temperature of at least 15°C for a period of not less than 45 minutes.

4 TESTING

4.1 Equine infectious anaemia virus (EIAv):

The donor stallions were subjected with negative results to the agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test or ELISA for EIAv not less than 21 days after entry onto the semen collection centre.

Test used:
Date of sampling:.....

4.2 Equine viral arteritis virus (EVA_v):

Either 4.2.1 The donor stallions were subjected with negative result to a virus neutralisation (VN) test for EVA_v not less than 21 days after entering the semen collection centre.

Date of sampling:

Or 4.2.2 The donor stallions were vaccinated against EVA_v under official veterinary control and have been re-vaccinated at least annually.

Date of most recent vaccination:

[NB: Approved programmes for initial vaccination are as follows:

- a) vaccination on the day a blood sample was taken which was subjected to the VN test with a negative result, or
- b) vaccination during a period of isolation of not more than 15 days, commencing on the day a blood sample was taken which was subjected to the VN test with a negative result, or
- c) vaccination when the stallion was at an age of 180 to 270 days during a period of isolation, during which two blood samples taken at least 10 days apart were subjected to the VN test and demonstrated a negative, stable or declining antibody titre.]

Or 4.2.3 For donor stallions seropositive to EVA_v:

4.2.3.1 Donor stallions seropositive to EVA_v were tested during the 12 months prior to collection of the semen for export to New Zealand and were found not to be semen carriers.

Test used:

Date(s) of sampling:

4.2.3.2 A Veterinary Declaration (see appendix 1) signed by the veterinarian who deals with the stallion is attached indicating that there is no evidence of the stallion ever shedding EVA_v in semen or being treated with gonadotropin-releasing hormone antagonist.

[NB: Approved methods for determining semen carriers are as follows:

- a) test mating to two mares which were subjected to VN tests with negative results on two blood samples, one collected at the time of test mating and the other 28 days after mating, or
- b) virus isolation on cell culture carried out on the sperm rich fraction of two separate semen samples with negative results.]

(Delete sections 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 as appropriate)

4.3 TAYLORELLA EQUIGENITALIS (CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS):

4.3.1 During the breeding season in which the semen for export was collected the donor stallions were tested for *Taylorella equigenitalis* by swabbing and culture on two occasions, with a negative result in each case. The swabs were taken at an interval of 5-7 days from the following sites: prepuce, urethral sinus, and fossa glandis (including its diverticulum)

Dates of sampling:

4.3.2 If testing in 4.3.1 occurred prior to the collection of the semen for export to New Zealand, then from the date of the first swabbing for *Taylorella equigenitalis* until the time of the last semen collection for export, the donor stallion has not been naturally mated except to mares of equivalent health status.

4.3.3 donor stallions have not been naturally mated except to mares of equivalent health status from the date of first swabbing for *Taylorella equigenitalis* until the time of semen collection for export.

4.4 BURKHOLDERIA MALLEI (GLANDERS)

4.4.1 The donor stallions were subjected with negative results to either the intradermopalpebral mallein test or complement fixation test (CFT) or dot ELISA for glanders, not less than 30 days after entering the semen collection centre.

Test used:

Date of mallein test/sampling:

4.5 TRYPANOSOMA EQUIPERDUM (DOURINE)

4.5.1 The donor stallions were subjected with negative results to the complement fixation test (CFT) or competitive-ELISA for dourine, not less than 30 days after entering the semen collection centre.

Test used:

Date of sampling:

4.6 All testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the Veterinary Administration to undertaken export testing and the laboratory results for the tests specified in the Section 4 of this Zoosanitary Certificate are attached.

5 STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

5.1 The semen was stored only with other semen that was eligible for export to New Zealand. The storage container was held in an approved storage facility under the direct supervision of the semen centre veterinarian until export.

5.2 The semen was placed in a new or disinfected transport container. For frozen semen the container was filled with fresh (previously unused) liquid nitrogen.

Method of disinfection (if applicable):

Date of disinfection (if applicable):

5.3 Prior to export, the transport container was sealed by an official veterinarian using an official seal bearing the marks:

Official stamp:

.....
Signature of Official Veterinarian

.....
Name of Official Veterinarian

Date:

Address of office:

NB:Official stamp must be applied to all pages

PART E. APPENDIX 1

VETERINARY DECLARATION

I, , the veterinarian who holds the records for the equine viral arteritis virus seropositive stallion identified in the attached Zoosanitary Certificate, certify after due enquiry of the owner of the stallion and examination of relevant records relating to the horse's breeding life that:

- i) there is no evidence to indicate that the stallion has shed equine viral arteritis virus in his semen at any time

AND

- ii) there is no evidence to indicate that the stallion has ever been treated with gonadotropin-releasing hormone antagonist.

.....
Signature of Veterinarian: Date

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

(Required for option 4.2.3 of the Veterinary Certificate)