Import Health StandardCommodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables Onion, *Allium cepa* from the United States of America

Pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Date approved: 29 August 2008

1 NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION ORGANISATION

The New Zealand national plant protection organisation is the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand and as such, all communication should be addressed to:

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2 GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR ALL PLANT PRODUCTS

All plants and plant products are **PROHIBITED** entry into New Zealand, unless an import health standard has been issued in accordance with Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. Should prohibited plants or plant products be intercepted by Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand, the importer will be offered the option of reshipment or destruction of the consignment.

The national plant protection organisation of the exporting country is requested to inform the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand of any change in its address.

The national plant protection organisation of the exporting country is required to inform the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand of any newly recorded organisms which may infest/infect any commodity approved for export to New Zealand.

3 EXPLANATION OF PEST CATEGORIES

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand has categorised organisms associated with plants and plant products into regulated and non-regulated organisms as specified below. Organisms (including weeds) associated with each commodity will appear on a separate pest list which will be attached to each import health standard as an Appendix.

3.1 REGULATED ORGANISMS

Regulated organisms are those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected. Regulated organisms are sub-divided into the following groups:

3.1.1 Quarantine: Risk group 1 pests

Risk group 1 pests are those quarantine pests (FAO Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, 1996) which on introduction into New Zealand could cause unacceptable economic impacts on the production of a commodity/commodities and/or the environment.

3.1.2 Quarantine: Risk group 2 pests

Risk group 2 pests are those quarantine pests which on introduction into New Zealand could cause a major disruption to market access (some importing countries require specific pre-export phytosanitary treatments) and/or significant economic impacts on the production of a particular commodity/commodities and/or the environment.

3.1.3 Quarantine: Risk group 3 pests

Risk group 3 pests (eg. economically significant species of fruit flies) are those quarantine pests which on entry into New Zealand would cause a major disruption to market access for a wide range of New Zealand commodities and/or have significant economic impacts on their production and/or the environment (some importing countries prohibit the entry of the host commodity). An official surveillance system is required for such pests in New Zealand.

3.1.4 Regulated non-quarantine pests

A regulated non-quarantine pest (denoted by "reg." on the pest list) is a pest whose presence in a consignment of plants for planting, affects the intended use of those plants with an economically unacceptable impact and is therefore regulated within the territory of the importing contracting party (Revised IPPC definition, Rome 1997). These pests would be under official control by the use of a Government operated or audited certification scheme.

3.1.5 Regulated non plant pests/unwanted organisms

Regulated non plant pests/unwanted organisms (including parasites and predators) are those organisms which, although not pests of plants or plant products, may be associated with plants or

plant products in international trade, and may have an affect on human or animal health (eg. black widow spider) and thus fall under the jurisdiction of other New Zealand government departments. The categorisation of these organisms and their associated import restrictions will be applied in accordance with the requirements of the relevant departments.

3.1.6 Vectors of associated quarantine pests

In the context of this import health standard, vectors are those organisms which are able to transmit quarantine pests into New Zealand. To prevent the transmission of vectored quarantine organisms to susceptible commodities in New Zealand, it is necessary to prevent the entry of their vectors. Vectors (denoted by "vect." on the pest list) will be categorised as risk group 1 even if they are present in New Zealand, unless they are risk group 2 pests in their own right. If the vectored organism is not present in the exporting country then the associated vector(s), if present in New Zealand, will be categorised as a non-regulated non-quarantine pest(s).

3.1.7 Vectored organisms

Vectored organisms (denoted by "VO" on the pest list) are those quarantine pests, that are able to enter New Zealand via a vector associated with the imported commodity.

3.1.8 Strains of pests

Where there is documented evidence that a pest associated with the imported commodity has a different host range, different pesticide resistance, vectors a different range of organisms, or is more virulent than that of the same species present in New Zealand, then the different strain (denoted by "strain" on the pest list) of that pest will be categorised accordingly as a risk group 1 or 2 regulated pest.

3.1.9 Unidentifiable organisms

Should identification of an organism not be possible within the required time frame, the organism will be categorised as a quarantine pest (either risk groups 1, 2, or 3) until such time as shown otherwise.

3.1.10 Unlisted organisms

Should an organism be intercepted that is not included on the pest list for that commodity, it will be categorised into the appropriate risk group and action taken accordingly.

3.2 NON-REGULATED ORGANISMS

3.2.1 Non-regulated non-quarantine pests

Non-regulated non-quarantine pests are either already present in New Zealand and are not under official control or, have no hosts present in New Zealand on which they could become established.

3.2.2 Non-regulated non plant pests/organisms

Non-regulated non plant pests/organisms are not pests of plants and are not of concern to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand or any other New Zealand government department.

3.3 CONTAMINANTS (INCLUDING SOIL)

Consignments contaminated with soil, or other potential carriers of quarantine pests (eg. leaf litter) will not be permitted entry if the level of contamination is above the acceptable tolerance level.

4 APPLICATION OF PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

A number of different phytosanitary measures may be applied to pests in each risk group, depending on the commodity and the type of pest. These measures include:

4.1 QUARANTINE: RISK GROUP 1 PESTS

Phytosanitary measures required for risk group 1 pests may include:

- inspection and phytosanitary certification of the consignment according to appropriate procedures by the national plant protection organisation of the exporting country,
- testing prior to export for quarantine pests which cannot be readily detected by inspection (eg. viruses on propagating material from accredited facilities), and verified by an additional declaration,
- inspection of the consignment by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand prior to biosecurity clearance, to ensure the specified pest tolerance has not been exceeded.

4.2 QUARANTINE: RISK GROUP 2 PESTS

Phytosanitary measures required for risk group 2 pests may include all the requirements for risk group 1 pests and may also require pre-export pest control activities to be undertaken by the contracting party, and confirmed by additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate.

4.3 QUARANTINE: RISK GROUP 3 PESTS

Phytosanitary measures applied to risk group 3 pests may include all the requirements for risk group 1 pests plus:

- the application of a pre-export treatment which has been developed in accordance with an approved Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand standard,
- an official bilateral quarantine arrangement between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand and the United States of America national plant

protection organisation which includes descriptions of each approved treatment system(s),
- specific additional declarations on the phytosanitary certificate.

4.4 REGULATED NON-QUARANTINE PESTS

Phytosanitary measures applied to regulated non-quarantine pests will generally be the same as for risk group 1 pests, or according to the contingencies implemented for that pest if detected in New Zealand.

4.5 NON-REGULATED NON-QUARANTINE PESTS

No phytosanitary measures are applied to non-regulated non-quarantine pests.

5 GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES

Commodity sub-class: fresh fruit/vegetables includes fresh fruit and vegetables for consumption.

Only inert/synthetic material may be used for the protection, packaging and shipping materials of fresh fruit/vegetables.

All host material (fruit/vegetables) of fruit fly species (Diptera: Tephritidae) of economic significance shall only be imported under the terms of a bilateral quarantine arrangement (e.g. agreement, workplan) between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand's Chief Technical Officer and the head of the supply country's national plant protection organisation.

6 SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR ONIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This import health standard covers the requirements for the entry of onions, commodity sub-class: fresh fruit/vegetables from the United States of America only.

6.1 PRE-EXPORT REQUIREMENTS

6.1.1 Inspection of the consignment

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand requires that the United States of America national plant protection organisation sample and inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all visually detectable quarantine pests (as specified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand), with a 95% confidence level, that not more than 0.5% of the units in the consignment are infested (this equates to an acceptance level of zero units infested by quarantine pests in a sample size of 600 units).

6.1.2 Testing and Treatment of the consignment

Testing of the consignment prior to export to New Zealand for quarantine pathogens which are not visually detectable is not generally required for fresh onions from the United States of America.

6.1.3 Documentation

Bilateral quarantine arrangement: Not required.

Phytosanitary certificate: Required.

Import permit/Authorisation to import: Exempt under Gazette Notice: No. AG12, 13 July 1995.

6.1.4 Phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the United States of America national plant protection organisation must accompany all onions, commodity sub-class: fresh fruit/vegetables exported to New Zealand.

Before an export phytosanitary certificate is to be issued, the United States of America national plant protection organisation must be satisfied that the following activities required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand have been undertaken.

The onions have:

-been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free of visually detectable quarantine pests.

6.1.5 Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate

If satisfied that the pre-export activities have been undertaken, the United States of America national plant protection organisation must confirm this by providing the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate:

"The onions in this consignment have:

been inspected according to appropriate official procedures and is considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand MAF and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand MAF, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.;

6.2 TRANSIT REQUIREMENTS

The onions must be packed and shipped in a manner to prevent contamination by quarantine pests.

The package should not be opened in transit. However, where a consignment is either stored, split up or has its packaging changed while in another country (or countries) *en route* to New Zealand, a "Re-export Certificate" is required. Where a consignment is held under bond, as a result of the need to change conveyances, and it is kept in the original shipping container, a "Re-export Certificate" is not required.

6.3 INSPECTION ON ARRIVAL

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand will check the accompanying documentation on arrival to confirm that it reconciles with the actual consignment.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand requires, with 95% confidence, that not more than 0.5% of the units (for onions, a unit is one bulb) in a consignment are infested with visually detectable quarantine pests. To achieve this, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand will sample and inspect 600 units with an acceptance level of zero infested units (or equivalent), from the (homogeneous) lot.

6.4 BIOSECURITY/QUARANTINE DIRECTIVE

The commodity may be directed to a facility for further treatment if required.

6.5 TESTING FOR QUARANTINE PESTS

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand may, on the specific request of the Chief Technical Officer,
test onions (commodity subclass: fresh fruit/vegetables) from the United States of America for quarantine pests.

6.6 ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN ON THE INTERCEPTION/DETECTION OF ORGANISMS/CONTAMINANTS

If quarantine pests are intercepted on the commodity, or associated packaging, the following actions will be undertaken as appropriate:

6.6.1 Quarantine: Risk group 1 pests

If a risk group 1 pest is intercepted, the importer will be given the option of:-

-treatment (where possible) of the consignment at the importer's risk,

-re-sorting (specific conditions apply) of the consignment,

-reshipment of the consignment,

-destruction of the consignment.

6.6.2 Quarantine: Risk group 2 pests

If a risk group 2 pest is intercepted, the importer will be given the option of:

-treatment (where possible) at the discretion of the Chief Technical Officer and immediate feedback to the national plant protection organisation of the exporting country with a request for corrective action,

-reshipment of the consignment,

-destruction of the consignment.

6.6.3 Quarantine: Risk group 3 pests

Actions for the interception of risk group 3 pests will include:

- reshipment of the consignment OR destruction of the consignment,

  AND

- the suspension of trade, until the cause of the non-compliance is investigated, identified and rectified. The appropriate actions may be audited by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand. Once the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand have been met to the satisfaction of the Chief Technical Officer, and supporting evidence is provided and verified by the United States of America national plant protection organisation, the trade suspension will be lifted.

6.6.4 Regulated non-quarantine pests

Actions for the interception/detection of regulated non-quarantine pests will be in accordance with the contingencies implemented for that pest if detected in New Zealand.

6.6.5 Regulated non plant pests/unwanted organisms

Actions for the interception/detection of regulated non plant pests/unwanted organisms will be in accordance with the actions required by the relevant government department.

6.6.6 Non-regulated non-quarantine pests

No action is undertaken on the interception of non-regulated non-quarantine pests.

6.6.7 Non-regulated non plant pests/organisms

No action is undertaken on the interception of non-regulated non plant pests/organisms.

6.6.8 Contaminants

Lots with more than 25 grams of soil per 600 unit sample shall be treated, reshipped or destroyed.

Interception of extraneous plant material (e.g. leaves, twigs) in the 600 unit sample will result in the lot being held until an assessment has been made in comparison with the risk of importing the part(s) of the plant species concerned.

6.7 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

If quarantine pests are not detected, or are successfully treated following interception/detection biosecurity clearance will be given.

6.8 FEEDBACK ON NON-COMPLIANCE

The United States of America national plant protection organisation will be informed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 's Chief Technical Officer of the interception (and treatment) of any quarantine pests, "unlisted" organisms, or non-compliance with other phytosanitary requirements.

7 CONTINGENCIES FOLLOWING BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

Should a quarantine pest be detected subsequent to biosecurity clearance, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand may implement a management programme (official control programme) in accordance with Part V of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Appendix

Pest List
Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables
Onion, *Allium cepa*
from the United States of America

REGULATED PESTS (actionable)

Quarantine: Risk group 3 pests

None

Quarantine: Risk group 2 pests

Quarantine: Risk group 1 pests

Insect

Insecta	
Dermaptera	
Anisolabiidae	
Euborellia annulipes	groundnut earwig
Diptera	
Anthomyiidae	
Delia antiqua	onion fly
Syrphidae	
Eumerus tuberculatus	lesser bulb fly

Mite

Araridae	
Rhizoglyphus setosus	bulb mite
Tyrophagus spp.	bulb mite

Nematode

Dorylaimida	
Trichodoridae	
Paratrichodorus allius	stubby root nematode
Tylenchida	
Meloidogynidae	
Meloidogyne chitwoodi	
Tylenchidae	
Ditylenchus dipsaci [strain]	stem and bulb nematode

Symphylid

Symphyla	
Scutigerellidae	

Scutigerella immaculata	garden symphylan

Fungus

Ascomycota	
Saccharomycetales	
Saccharomycetaceae	
Kluyveromyces marxianus	yeast soft rot
Basidiomycota: Ustomycetes	
Ustilaginales	
Tilletiaceae	
Urocystis colchici	leaf smut

Bacterium

Pseudomonadaceae	
Burkholderia cepacia	sour skin

Regulated non-quarantine pests

None

Regulated non plant pests

None

NON-REGULATED PESTS (non-actionable)

Non-regulated non-quarantine pests

Insect

Insecta	
Diptera	
Anthomyiidae	
Delia platura	seedcorn maggot
Syrphidae	
Eumerus strigatus	onion bulb fly
Merodon equestris	narcissus bulb fly
Lepidoptera	
Noctuidae	
Agrotis ipsilon	greasy cutworm
Homoptera	
Aphididae	
Myzus persicae	Green peach aphid

Mite

Acaridae	
Rhizoglyphus echinopus	bulb mite
Rhizoglyphus robini	bulb mite

Nematode

Adenophorea	
Dorylaimida	
Trichodoridae	
Paratrichodorus minor	stubby root nematode
Tylenchida	
Meloidogynidae	
Meloidogyne hapla	northern root knot nematode
Meloidogyne incognita	southern root knot nematode
Tylenchidae	
Ditylenchus destructor	potato rot nematode
Ditylenchus dipsaci	Stem and bulb nematode

Fungus

Ascomycota	
Dothideales	
Pleosporaceae	
Pleospora herbarum (anamorph *Stemphylium herbarum*)	black mould
Hypocreales	
Hypocreaceae	
Nectria haematococca (anamorph *Fusarium solani*)	fusarium fruit rot
Leotiales	
Sclerotiniaceae	
Botryotinia fuckeliana (anamorph *Botrytis cinerea*)	grey mould
Sclerotinia sclerotiorum	cottony rot
Basidiomycota: Basidiomycetes	
Ceratobasidiales	
Ceratobasidiaceae	
Thanatephorus cucumeris (anamorph *Rhizoctonia solani*)	Bulb and root rot
Stereales	
Atheliaceae	
Athelia rolfsii (anamorph *Sclerotium rolfsii*)	Rolf's disease
Basidiomycota: Ustomycetes	
Ustilaginales	
Tilletiaceae	
Urocystis magica	onion smut
Mitosporic Fungi (Agonomycetes)	
Agonomycetales	
Unknown Agonomycetales	
Sclerotium cepivorum	white rot
Mitosporic Fungi (Coelomycetes)	
Sphaeropsidales	
Sphaerioidaceae	
Macrophomina phaseolina	ashy stem blight
Phoma terrestris	pink root rot
Melanconiales	
Melanconiliaceae	

Colletotrichum circinans	smudge
Mitosporic Fungi (Hyphomycetes)	
Hyphomycetales	
Dematiaceae	
Alternaria porri	alternaria blight
Moniliaceae	
Aspergillus niger	Black mould
Botrytis aclada	neck rot
Botrytis byssoidea	Mycelial neck rot
Tuberculariales	
Tuberculariaceae	
Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. *cepae*	fusarium rot
Oomycota	
Peronosporales	
Peronosporaceae	
Peronospora destructor	downy mildew
Pythiales	
Pythiaceae	
Pythium spinosum	pythium root rot
Pythium ultimum	pythium root rot
Zygomycota: Zygomycetes	
Mucorales	
Mucoraceae	
Rhizopus stolonifer	neck rot

Bacterium

Enterobacteriaceae	
Erwinia carotovora subsp. *carotovora*	bacterial soft rot
Erwinia chrysanthemi	bacterial soft rot
Pseudomonadaceae	
Burkholderia gladioli pv. *alliicola*	bacterial soft rot
Pseudomonas marginalis	bacterial spot

Non-regulated non plant pests

None