

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF PORCINE SEMEN INTO NEW ZEALAND FROM NORWAY**

**Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993**

**Dated: 12 January 1998**

## **1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD**

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

## **2 PERMIT TO IMPORT**

2.1 Prior to importation, it is mandatory that the importer applies for a permit to import, which authorises the importation of animal semen into New Zealand.

This permit is obtained from:

Animal Imports and Exports  
Ministry of Agriculture  
P O Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

2.2 A permit to import will be issued for a single consignment only.

2.3 Attached to, and an integral part of the permit to import, is the current import health standard which describes the conditions under which the animal semen may be imported to New Zealand.

## **3 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY THE IMPORTER**

The importer shall supply the following information:

- 3.1 name and address of exporter;
- 3.2 name and address of the semen collection centre;
- 3.3 breed and identification of donor boars;
- 3.4 number of straws to be imported.

## **4 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 exporting country, or for any other reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

## 5 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

The permit to import and all the required certification (which must be in English or a bilingual form: language of specified country/English) must accompany the consignment to New Zealand. The required documentation is:

- 5.1 Zoosanitary Certificate;
- 5.2 Veterinary Certificate A, completed and signed by the veterinary surgeon appointed to the semen collection centre.
- 5.3 Veterinary Certificate B, completed and signed by a government veterinary officer of the country of export.

## 6 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 All costs involved with the selection, testing, treatment, transport, quarantine servicing must be borne by the importer or agent as appropriate.
- 6.2 The importer or agent must make all arrangements for transport and obtain necessary transit authorities from any countries on the transport route.
- 6.3 Details of transport and arrival times must be supplied to the MAF Veterinary Officer at the port or airport of entry not less than 7 days in advance of importation.

## 7 EQUIVALENCE

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

Occasionally, it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, the semen does not comply completely with the requirements. In such cases, applications for equivalence will be considered prior to importation and issued at the discretion of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture, but only if the following information is provided by the certifying government's veterinary authorities :

- 7.1 which clause/s of the health requirements cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- 7.2 the reason the semen is considered to be of an equivalent health status

and/or what proposal is made to return the semen to an equivalent health status as set out in the health conditions;

- 7.3 the reasons why the veterinary authorities believe this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and their recommendation for its acceptance.

## 8 ELIGIBILITY

- 8.1 The donor boars must have been resident in Norway and free from all quarantine restrictions for the twelve month period prior to collection of the semen for export.
- 8.2 The donor boars must originate from herds which meet the herds of origin requirements of Veterinary Certificate A section 2.
- 8.3 The donor boars must originate from herds which have never used a modified live porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus vaccine nor introduced pigs from herds that have used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine.
- 8.4 The semen must be in straws. Semen in pellets or ampoules is not acceptable.

## 9 ISOLATION

- 9.1 Prior to entry into the semen collection centre, the donor boars must have completed a 30 day period of isolation in a facility which meets the location and facilities requirements of Sections 1 and 2 of Appendix 1 : *MAF standard for semen collection centres for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand.*
- 9.2 During the 30 day period of isolation, the donor boars must have completed the testing requirements of Veterinary Certificate A section 3.

## 10 SEMEN COLLECTION CENTRE

- 10.1 The semen must be collected at a semen collection centre which is under the supervision of a veterinary surgeon and which has been approved by the Norwegian Animal Health Authority for the collection of porcine semen for export according to Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand*, excluding the requirements of section 3.2 relating to approval of PRRS freedom, Norway being a country recognised by NZMAF as being free from PRRS.

10.2 The Supervising Veterinarian of the semen collection centre must be a registered veterinary surgeon in Norway and approved by the Norwegian Animal Health Authority to supervise the collection of porcine semen for export.

## 11 IDENTIFICATION

11.1 The identification of the semen donor and the date of collection must be shown on the veterinary certificates accompanying the semen.

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

## 12 HEALTH CERTIFICATION

12.1 The animal health certification requirements are stated in Veterinary Certificate A and B which are to be signed by the veterinary surgeon supervising the semen collection centre and an official veterinary officer of the veterinary authorities of Norway.

12.2 All serological tests must be carried out at a laboratory approved by the Chief Veterinary Officer of Norway.

## 13 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

The semen for export to New Zealand must be transported in transport containers which have been sealed with an official seal of the government veterinary authorities of the exporting country. The number of the seal must be recorded in the Veterinary Certificate B.

## 14 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

On arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment will be checked by an Inspector under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and, providing it complies with the conditions of the permit to import, and the seal of the transport container remains intact, a biosecurity clearance will be issued and it will be released to the importer.

### **ZOO-SANITARY CERTIFICATE:**

Species: PIG SEMEN  
To: NEW ZEALAND  
Import Permit Number: .....

Exporting Country: NORWAY  
Ministry: NORWEGIAN ANIMAL HEALTH AUTHORITY  
Service:  
Region:

**I: INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DONOR ANIMAL**

Breed: .....

Identification: .....

Property of origin: .....

.....

**II: INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SEMEN**

Date of collection: .....

Number of doses: .....

Identification of straws (Markings to be indelible): .....

Preservatives and antibiotics used: .....

**III: ORIGIN OF THE SEMEN**

Name and address of approved semen collection centre: .....

.....

**IV: DESTINATION OF THE SEMEN**

Name and address of importer: .....

.....

**V: SANITARY INFORMATION**

**N.B.** The required zoo-sanitary information is contained in the accompanying Veterinary Certificates A and B.

## **VETERINARY CERTIFICATE - A**

I, ....., the Government Veterinary Officer or Government approved veterinary surgeon (herein called the Supervising Veterinarian) appointed to the semen collection centre certify with respect to the donor boars and semen identified in the attached Zoosanitary Certificate that:

### **1 DONOR BOARS**

The donor boars have been resident in Norway and free from all quarantine restrictions for the twelve month period to the entry of the donor boars into isolation prior to collection of semen for export to New Zealand.

### **2 HERD OF ORIGIN**

- 2.1 The herd of origin of the donor boars met all the official Norwegian herd of origin health requirements at the time of entry of the boars into isolation prior to collection of semen for export to New Zealand.
- 2.2 After due enquiry and examination of any relevant records, I am satisfied that the donor boars originate from herds which have never used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine nor introduced pigs from herds that have used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine.
- 2.3 Prior to entry into pre-export isolation, the donor boars met all the official Norwegian testing requirements for boars entering isolation prior to entry onto semen collection centres approved for export of porcine semen.

### **3 ISOLATION**

- 3.1 Prior to export of semen to New Zealand, the donor boars have completed a 30 day period of isolation in a facility which meets the location and facilities requirements of Sections 1 and 2 of Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand.*
- 3.2 During the period of isolation the donor boars had no contact with animals of a lesser isolation and tested health status.
- 3.3 During the period of isolation the donor boars met all the official Norwegian health testing and treatment requirements for boars undergoing isolation prior to entry on to an approved semen collection centre.
- 3.4 During the isolation period the donor boars have been subjected to the following testing or treatment for leptospirosis:

- EITHER** 3.4.1 a microscopic agglutination test for *Leptospirosis interrogans* serovars pomona, grippotyphosa, tarassovi, hardjo, bratislava and ballum, performed not less than 15 days after entering isolation with a negative result;
- OR** 3.4.2 two injections of streptomycin 14 days apart, at a dose rate of 25 mg per kg liveweight.

(N.B. Delete whichever of 3.4.1 and 3.4.2 above is not applicable.)

#### **4 SEMEN COLLECTION CENTRE**

- 4.1 The semen has been collected at a semen collection centre which is under the supervision of a veterinary surgeon and which has been approved by the Norwegian Animal Health Authority for the collection of porcine semen for export according to Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand*, excluding the requirements of section 3.2 relating to approval of PRRS freedom, Norway being a country recognised by NZMAF as being free from PRRS.
- 4.2 The semen for export was collected according to the Norwegian legislation governing the collection of porcine semen for export.
- 4.3 The semen collection centre and isolation facility had no clinical evidence of swine influenza, porcine epidemic diarrhoea or haemagglutinating encephalomyelitis during the 30 days prior to the collection of semen for export to New Zealand.
- 4.4 On the day of entry of the donor boars onto the semen collection centre, they were examined and found to be free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease.
- 4.5 At all times while on the semen collection centre the donor boars had no contact with animals of a lesser isolation and tested health status.

#### **5 SEMEN COLLECTION AND PROCESSING**

- 5.1 On the dates of collection of the semen, none of the animals in the semen collection centre showed any clinical evidence of infectious or contagious disease.
- 5.2 All products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in the collection, processing and storage of the semen were screened for adventitious viruses including tests for cytopathology in appropriate cell cultures, for haemagglutinating and haemadsorbing viruses, and for pestiviruses by

immunoperoxidase or immunofluorescence techniques with negative results in each case.

5.3 All biological products have been handled in a manner which ensures their sterility was maintained.

5.4 An effective combination of antibiotics was added to the semen after final dilution. The combination must produce an effect at least equivalent to the following dilutions:

not less than:           500 IU per ml streptomycin,  
                                  500 IU per ml penicillin,  
                                  150 µg per ml lincomycin,  
                                  300 µg per ml spectinomycin.

5.5 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.

## **6 SEMEN STORAGE**

6.1 After processing, the semen was stored in previously sterilised flasks containing fresh nitrogen not previously used for any other purpose.

6.2 Prior to shipment to New Zealand, the semen has been stored under quarantine conditions at the semen collection centre for a minimum of 25 days or until the results of the post collection testing are known, whichever is the greater.

6.3 Any container servicing was completed under the supervision of the veterinarian appointed to the semen collection centre and has been conducted in a manner that prevents contamination of the container or its contents.

## **7 POST COLLECTION TESTING**

7.1 Not less than 21 days and not more than 42 days after the last collection of semen for export to New Zealand each donor boar was subjected to a complement fixation test (CFT) for Q fever with negative results.

7.2 During the period of 30 days immediately following the dates of semen collection for export to New Zealand, all animals on the semen collection centre remained free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.



**8 LABORATORY TESTING**

All serological tests have been carried out at a laboratory approved by the Norwegian Animal Health Authority. Copies of laboratory reports for all serological testing conducted in accordance with the requirements of Veterinary Certificate A are accompanying the consignment to New Zealand.

.....  
Supervising Veterinarian Date  
  
appointed to the ..... Semen Collection Centre  
  
Name and address of office: .....  
.....

## VETERINARY CERTIFICATE - B

I ....., a Veterinary Officer of the Norwegian Animal Health Authority certify with respect to the semen for export and donor boars identified in the attached Zoosanitary Certificate that:

### 1 COUNTRY FREEDOM DECLARATION

During the 12 month period preceding the first date of collection of semen for export to New Zealand, and during the minimum 30 days period of storage of the semen after final collection for export to New Zealand, Norway has remained free from the following diseases, and vaccination against these diseases is not generally permitted:

African swine fever	Aujeszky's disease
<i>Brucella suis</i>	classical swine fever
foot and mouth disease	Japanese B encephalitis
porcine reproductive and respiratory disease	rinderpest
porcine enterovirus encephalomyelitis	swine vesicular disease
transmissible gastroenteritis	vesicular stomatitis

### 2 ENDORSEMENT

- 2.1 The semen collection centre from which the semen for export originates is approved for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand according to Appendix 1: *MAF standard for semen collection centres for the collection of porcine semen for export to New Zealand*, excluding the requirements of section 3.2 relating to approval of PRRS freedom, Norway being a country recognised by NZMAF as being free from PRRS.
- 2.2 The Supervising Veterinarian of the semen collection centre is a registered veterinary surgeon in Norway and approved by the Norwegian Animal Health Authority to supervise the collection of porcine semen for export.

**3 SEMEN FOR EXPORT**

Prior to dispatch from the semen collection centre, the flask containing the semen for export to New Zealand has been sealed with an official seal of the government veterinary authorities bearing the unique mark or identification number:

.....

.....  
Veterinary Officer  
Norwegian Animal Health Authority

.....  
Official stamp and Date

Name and address of office: .....

.....

**N.B. Official stamp must be applied to all pages of the certification.**

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## APPENDIX ONE

### MAF STANDARD FOR SEMEN COLLECTION CENTRES FOR THE COLLECTION OF PORCINE SEMEN FOR EXPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

#### 1 LOCATION

- 1.1 The centre must be located in a country, or part of the territory of a country, that has been free from the following diseases for a minimum 12 month period prior to the entry of the donor boar:

African swine fever	classical swine fever
porcine enterovirus encephalomyelitis	foot and mouth disease
Japanese B encephalitis	rinderpest
swine vesicular disease	vesicular stomatitis

- 1.2 The centre must be conveniently located for supervision by either a Government Veterinary Officer or a registered veterinary surgeon with Government approval to supervise the collection of porcine semen for export (herein called the Supervising Veterinarian).
- 1.3 The centre must be situated at least 3 kms from any other pig-producing enterprises. In the case of a semen collection centre in proximity of less than 3 km to a pig producing enterprise, MAF may consider a request for approval of the semen collection centre based upon demonstration of PRRS freedom in the pig producing enterprise to a technical equivalence with this standard.

#### 2 FACILITIES

- 2.1 The facility must be accessible by authorised personnel only. Such personnel (with the exception of veterinary officers who maintain necessary protection and disinfection procedures applicable to an isolation facility) are not to be concurrently employed in nor attending another pig-producing enterprise.
- 2.2 The facility must be roofed and ventilated to prevent resident pigs from coming into contact with any birds.
- 2.3 The facility must be of a permanent-type construction, and internal surfaces in areas in direct contact with pigs must be of materials that they can be readily cleaned and disinfected.
- 2.4 The facility must have facilities for veterinary examination of animals, the collection of samples, and for the segregation and isolation of sick animals under investigation to rule out a diagnosis of infectious or contagious disease.
- 2.5 Semen must be processed in a room or building designated as a laboratory and set aside for that purpose, separate from areas where animals are housed and where semen is collected. This facility must be cleaned and disinfected before use.

### 3 APPROVAL

- 3.1 The centre must be approved by the Supervising Veterinarian prior to the commencement of each period of collection of semen for export to New Zealand according to the requirements of sections 1, 2 and 4 of this standard.
- 3.2 In the case of semen collection centres located in countries which are unable to demonstrate country freedom from porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) to the satisfaction of NZ MAF, approval of the semen collection centre shall require that the centre has been determined to be free from PRRS according to the following requirements:
- 3.2.1 The semen collection centre must have a documented absence from PRRS. All pigs entering the semen collection centre must originate from herds which, to the best of the Supervising Veterinarian's knowledge, have never recorded a clinical case of PRRS.
- 3.2.2 The semen collection centre must have never used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine nor, to the best of the Supervising Veterinarian's knowledge, introduced pigs from herds that have used a modified live PRRS virus vaccine.
- 3.2.3 All pigs in the semen collection centre must have completed a 5 week period of isolation in a facility which meets the physical requirements of this standard detailed in sections 1 and 2 above (isolation may occur in the semen collection centre itself during the approval period of the semen collection centre).
- 3.2.4 While undergoing the 5 week isolation period the pigs must be exposed throughout the isolation period to direct contact with at least an equal number of sentinel grower pigs. The total number of pigs in the semen collection centre undergoing isolation must be at least ten (10) at all times.
- 3.2.5 The sentinel grower pigs used must meet the following criteria:
- 3.2.5.1 they are aged between 12 and 24 weeks of age;
- 3.2.5.2 they are derived from 3 or more herds from which within two months prior to the commencement of the isolation period, a number of grower pigs at least equal to that calculated below (Cannon and Roe, 1982) has been tested using an approved multi-valent ELISA test for PRRS with a negative result in each case;
- Number of growers tested =  $(1-(1-\alpha)^{1/n})(N-n/2)+1$
- Where, N = the number of grower pigs in the herd
- α = the level of confidence (= 0.99)
- n = the minimum expected number of seropositive pigs
- = 0.10 x (N)
- 3.2.6 Potential donor boars which meet the requirements of 3.2.5 above can act as sentinels for other donor boars, so long as the requirements of 3.2.4 above are met and pigs acting in a sentinel capacity are derived from three or more herds.

- 3.2.7 During the isolation period, all pigs undergoing isolation must be tested for PRRS using an approved multi-valent ELISA test, on two occasions at the start and finish of the isolation period, with a negative result in each case.
- 3.2.8 Semen collected from donor boars during the 5 week period of isolation (either during approval of the semen collection centre or prior to entry of a donor boar onto an approved semen collection centre) will become eligible for export to New Zealand upon successful completion of isolation (i.e. no positive test for PRRS in any donor boar or sentinel simultaneously undergoing isolation).

#### **4 OPERATION**

- 4.1 Disease testing, semen collection and semen processing and storage must be supervised by the Supervising Veterinarian.
- 4.2 During the collection period the centre must only be occupied by the donors boar and other stock of the same health status.
- 4.3 Personnel attending the pigs must change outer clothing and footwear, and wash thoroughly, before entering the facility and handling the animals. Personnel processing semen must be trained in, and practice, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.
- 4.4 All equipment used in the feeding, handling and treatment of the pigs at the centre must be new or cleaned and disinfected before use and must be dedicated to use on the animals on the centre for the duration of the collection period.
- 4.5 All equipment used to collect, process and store the semen and/or which comes into contact with either the donor boars or the semen must be new and disposable or cleaned and disinfected before and between uses. Semen must be stored in a secure area.
- 4.6 Any health problems affecting pigs on the centre during the collection period must be promptly reported to the Supervising Veterinarian.
- 4.7 A record must be kept by the operator and/or the export agent detailing identification of all pigs on the centre and their origins, dates of entry, dates and results of disease tests or investigations, treatments either therapeutic or prophylactic, any departures from good health and condition, inspection visits by the Supervising Veterinarian and any other information relevant to each animal's health status while it resident on the centre.
- 4.8 There must be no unauthorised access to the centre and all visitors entries must be logged.

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