

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR ZOO LIZARD HATCHING EGGS FROM AUSTRALIA

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 22 October 2010

The information in this import health standard is in five parts:

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION describes the legal basis for this import health standard and the general responsibilities of the importer.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE outlines whether a permit is required, the conditions of eligibility, and documentation that may need to accompany the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE describes the clearance requirements at the New Zealand border and, if necessary, whether the consignment must go to a transitional facility or containment facility.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed fully and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

Part E. APPENDIX contains the list of species of zoo lizards deemed by the Environmental Risk Management Authority as present in New Zealand.

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 specified zoo lizard hatching eggs from Australia.
- 1.2 To obtain biosecurity clearance the consignment must meet the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 Obtaining biosecurity authority for entry of lizards into New Zealand is dependent on containment approval from the Environmental Risk Management Authority for that particular species of zoo lizards and the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.

2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 It is the importers responsibility to ensure that they are compliant with the current relevant import health standard at the time of importation. Current versions of import health standards are available on the MAF Biosecurity New Zealand website:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/ihs/search>

A register of import health standards is also publicly available for inspection at the office of the Director-General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand.

- 2.2 The costs to MAF Biosecurity New Zealand in performing functions relating to the importation of zoo lizard hatching eggs must be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity authorisation must be covered by the importer or agent
- 2.3 The importer must make all arrangements for transport of the lizard hatching eggs to and within New Zealand. If the planned route is not directly from Australia to the port of entry into New Zealand, the importer must obtain the necessary transit authorities from any third countries on the transport route. The proposed routes and means of travel both to New Zealand and within New Zealand must be advised to and approved by the Animal Imports & Exports Group Manager. The vehicles and crates used for transport within New Zealand may be subject to inspection by a New Zealand Official Veterinarian, who may seal the container in which the zoo lizard hatching eggs are transported to the containment facility.
- 2.4 If the species of zoo lizard is not listed in Appendix A, it is the importer's responsibility to obtain approval from the Environmental Risk Management Authority (www.ermanz.govt.nz) before importation will be permitted.

[Note: only species covered by an import risk analysis may be added to Appendix A. Risk analyses can be found on our website:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/imports/ihs/risk>]

- 2.5 Where required, the consignment must be accompanied by a permit to export by the legislation of the country of origin and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES): <http://www.cites.org> . The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of animal in relation to international agreements on their trade, prior to export. Material arriving in New Zealand without a permit to export may be subject to seizure by the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

3 EQUIVALENCE

- 3.1 The import health standard has been agreed as suitable for trade between the exporting and the importing countries. It is expected that the consignment will meet the conditions in every respect.
- 3.2 Occasionally it may be found that, due to circumstances beyond the control of the importer or exporter, a consignment does not comply with the specific requirements in this import health standard, but may meet the outcomes sought. In such cases, a permit to import application may be made, equivalence granted and import permit issued at the discretion of MAF Biosecurity New Zealand. The following information must be forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authority for an equivalence to be considered:

- which clause/s of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;
- the reason the consignment is considered to be of an "equivalent health" status;
- the reasons why the veterinary authority of the country of origin believes this proposal should be acceptable to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and their recommendation for its acceptance.

4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Animal Imports & Exports Group Manager

The Animal Imports & Exports Group Manager, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the delegated power and functions of the Animal Imports & Exports Group Manager

AQIS

Australian Quarantine Inspection Service

Biosecurity authority

Written authority from an inspector, given under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act (1993), to move uncleared goods from a transitional facility or biosecurity control area to another transitional facility, containment facility or biosecurity control area, or to export those goods from New Zealand.

Certifying Official

A person authorised by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country to sign international veterinary certificates.

Inspector BA

Means a person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act (1993). (Explanatory Note: An Inspector is appointed to undertake administering and enforcing the provisions of the Biosecurity Act and controls imposed under HSNO).

MAFBNZ

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand

Official veterinarian

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 *Terrestrial Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

OIE *Terrestrial Code*

The World Organisation for Animal Health *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

Permit to import (Import Permit)

A written order issued by the Director-General of MAF authorising the importation of risk goods to a specified facility.

Zoo

A containment facility approved to the zoo containment standard where live zoo animals are kept for the purposes of public exhibition, conservation, research or education. Note: A zoo includes for example, a circus, butterfly house, aquarium or an oceanarium. A zoo may also hold indigenous animals that are not new organisms but these animals are not covered by this Standard.

Zoo animal

A new organism approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996 (HSNO) to be held in a zoo. The organism is both a new organism under the HSNO Act and a restricted organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Zoosanitary certificate

A veterinary health certificate issued by the exporting country in accordance with the OIE.

PART B: IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5 PERMIT TO IMPORT

5.1 A permit to import is required for the importation of all lizard hatching eggs into New Zealand.

5.2 An application form to apply for a permit to import can be obtained from our website: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/forms/imports-live-animals-into-trans-facility>

5.3 Application for a permit to import must be made in writing at least 30 days before the proposed date of importation:

Animal Imports
Border Standards
MAF Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
PO Box 2526
Wellington
New Zealand.
Email animalimports@maf.govt.nz

5.4 The importer must supply the following information:

5.4.1 name and address of exporter;

5.4.2 number and species of lizard hatching eggs;

5.4.3 date of the proposed importation;

5.4.4 name and address of the containment facility in New Zealand, to which the consignment is to proceed following importation;

5.4.5 a letter from the Biosecurity Inspector supervising the containment facility indicating that the facility is available for this consignment.

5.4.6 port of arrival and route and means of transport to the containment facility.

5.5 The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment.

6 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by:

6.1.1 the permit to import;

6.1.2 all appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.

6.2 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 authority and/or clearance 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 and is independent of this certification.]

6.3 All documentation must be sent to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 72 hours in advance of importation. Email: liveanimalsector@nzfsa.govt.nz

6.4 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.

7 ELIGIBILITY FOR IMPORTATION

7.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to hatching eggs of lizard species specified in appendix A, which have been derived from individuals that have been:

7.1.1 resident in a government approved zoological collection in Australia for at least twelve months prior to importation;

OR

7.1.2 born in captivity in a government approved zoological collection in Australia and remained there for their entire lives prior to importation.

7.2 The eggs must be visibly clean and free from contamination.

7.3 All requirements of this import health standard, including those detailed in the Model Zoosanitary Certificate must be met for the commodity to be eligible for importation.

8 TRANSPORT TO NEW ZEALAND

- 8.1 Date, expected time, port of arrival and the flight number or ship's name must be notified to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 7 days in advance of importation. Email: liveanimalsector@nzfsa.govt.nz
- 8.2 Containers made of timber must meet the requirements of the wood packaging import health standard (refer to: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/forests/standards/non-viable-forest-produce/wood-packaging-ihs.htm>)

PART C: CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

9 BIOSECURITY AUTHORITY

- 9.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand an Official Veterinarian must inspect the lizard hatching eggs and the documentation accompanying them.
- 9.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, an Inspector under section 25 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, may give a biosecurity authority authorising the lizard hatching eggs to be moved to the containment facility for zoo animals named in the permit to import.
- 9.3 The lizards and any offspring must remain permanently in a registered zoo, approved to MAF Standard 154.03.04 *Containment Facilities for Zoo Animals* and may not be transferred to another zoo without the prior permission of the Animal Imports & Exports Group Manager.

PART D: ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

10 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAFBNZ to accompany imports of zoo lizard hatching eggs into New Zealand from Australia:

IV: SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I,, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the zoo lizard hatching eggs identified in this zoosanitary certificate, that:

1. Hatching eggs

- 1.1 Each egg is of the species:
(insert one of the species listed in appendix A)
- 1.2 Each egg has been derived from individuals that have been:
 - 1.2.1 resident in a government approved zoological collection in Australia for at least twelve months prior to importation;
- OR
- 1.2.2 born in captivity in a government approved zoological collection in Australia and remained there for their entire lives prior to importation.
- 1.3 Only clean hatching eggs have been selected and the hatching eggs were visibly free of contamination at the time of export.
- 1.4 The zoo lizards the hatching eggs were derived from and the premises of origin have been free of quarantine restrictions for at least 90 days prior to the scheduled date of export.

2. Premises

- 2.1 The premises of origin was under veterinary supervision and the health of the animals was monitored so that incidents of disease and death were identified promptly.
- 2.2 Within the last 12 months adenoviruses were excluded as the cause of illness or death affecting any animals of the genus to be exported on the basis of either specific laboratory diagnostic procedures, clinical or pathological grounds or on the basis of the diagnosis of an alternative cause of disease.

3. Transport to New Zealand

- 3.1 The vehicle in which the lizard hatching eggs will be transported from the premises of origin to the port of departure were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using a disinfectant approved by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.
- 3.2 If shipped by air, the eggs were shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Regulations.

PART E: APPENDIX A

**SPECIES OF ZOO LIZARDS ELIGIBLE FOR IMPORTATION INTO
CONTAINMENT IN NEW ZEALAND:**

TAXONOMIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<i>Brachylophus vitiensis</i>	Fijian Crested Iguana
<i>Iguana iguana</i>	Common Iguana
<i>Phelsuma madagascariensis</i>	Madagascar Day Gecko
<i>Ophisaurus apodus</i> (syn. <i>Pseudopus apodus</i>)	Scheltopusik
<i>Trachydosaurus rugosus</i>	Shingleback
<i>Varanus varius</i>	Lace Monitor