OVERSEAS MARKET ACCESS REQUIREMENTS NOTIFICATION - ANIMAL PRODUCTS ACT 1999 – IMPORT AND EXPORT STANDARDS, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY NEW ZEALAND

Ref: AE-CO-05
Date: 21 September 2011

OMAR B BOVEMBED1.COL – BOVINE EMBRYOS (IN-VITRO) to COLOMBIA

1. Statutory authority

Pursuant to section 60 of the Animal Products Act 1999:

i) I notify the following overseas market access requirements, entitled bovine embryos (in-vitro) to Colombia.

This notice takes effect from date of signing.

Dated at Wellington this 18th day of November 2011.

Signed: Matthew Stone BVSc MVS MACVSc
Group Manager
Animal Imports and Exports
Import Export Directorate
Standards Branch
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
(pursuant to delegated authority)

2. Colombia requirements

Bovine embryos (in-vitro) exported from New Zealand to Colombia must comply with the import regulations of Colombia listed in this notice as follows.

2.1 An Import Permit is required for the exportation of bovine embryos (in-vitro) to Colombia.

2.2 An Official Veterinarian authorised by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry must certify after due enquiry the following:

2.2.1 New Zealand is officially free, without vaccination, of foot-and-mouth disease, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, bluetongue, vesicular stomatitis, and bovine brucellosis.

2.2.2 New Zealand is recognised as being free of BSE according to the criteria listed in the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

2.2.3 All the bovine embryos fertilised in vitro have been collected, processed and stored in an embryo collection centre according to the current OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, and the female donor cow has been resident for at least six (6) months in New Zealand.

2.2.4 The semen collection centre from which the semen came has been officially approved and supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2.2.5 The embryo collection and processing centre from which the oocytes or embryos came has been officially approved and supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2.2.6 The laboratory is under direct supervision of an embryo team and is audited periodically by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

2.2.7 During the manipulation preceding the embryo preservation in ampoules, canisters or straws, there has not been processing of any other embryos from donors of lower health status.

2.2.8 The laboratory is protected against rodents and insects.

2.2.9 The laboratory is built with materials which allow effective cleaning and disinfection.

2.2.10 The embryo collection and processing centre team is supervised by an embryo team veterinarian.

2.2.11 The embryo team is responsible for all activities, which include extraction of ovaries and oocytes in a hygienic manner and all the other procedures inherent in embryo production destined for export.

2.2.12 The embryo team is properly trained to apply the techniques and principles of disease control and keep the hygiene rules to avoid introduction of infection.

2.2.13 The embryo team works in an appropriate facility and has the necessary materials to collect oocytes, the manipulation of oocytes and embryo production in a permanent laboratory, and oocyte and embryo storage. It is not necessary that the facilities are at the same place.

2.2.14 The embryo collection team keeps a record of their activities for at least two (2) consecutive years for presenting to the veterinary authority for inspection.

2.2.15 The embryo collection team is audited at least annually by the veterinary authority to guarantee sanitary requirements are met during oocyte collection and manipulation during embryo production and storing.

2.2.16 All the donor cows in the centre were free of clinical signs of diseases on the day of embryo collection.

2.2.17 The donor cattle have been resident for at least six (6) months in New Zealand.

2.2.18 The donor cows:

2.2.18.1 showed no clinical signs of leptospirosis at the time of oocyte collection

2.2.18.2 the donor cows have remained in an establishment free of any clinical signs of leptospirosis for a period of ninety (90) days prior to export

2.2.18.3 the concentration of antibiotics in fluids used for collecting, the treatment and oocytes-embryos storage is effective against leptospirosis.

2.2.19 The female donor cows have been in a country or area free of bovine brucellosis.

2.2.20 The donor cows:

2.2.20.1 as well as other susceptible animals in the herd of origin, showed no clinical signs of bovine tuberculosis twenty four (24) hours before departure to the collection centre

2.2.20.2 have remained an officially bovine tuberculosis free herd

2.2.20.3 have been isolated in the farm of origin during a period of thirty (30) days prior to departure to the collection centre, and have been negative ([a] 2mm difference between two readings made at intervals of 72 hours) to a skin tuberculin test, with bovine tuberculin PPD.

2.2.21 The donor cows have been in a country or area free of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia since birth, or during a period not less than six (6) months before the time of oocytes collection.

2.2.22 The embryos were treated with trypsin (0.25%).

2.2.23 The bovine semen used for the embryo fertilisation comes from a semen centre eligible for Colombia, having been collected, processed and stored according to the current OIE Code for Terrestrial Animals.

2.2.24 All the biological products of animal origin, including the cell cultivation and media ingredients used for oocyte collection, fertiliation, cultivation, washing and storage should be free of living pathogens. The media was sterilised before use with recognised methods, according to the IETS Manual, and managed to retain sterility. Antibiotic additions to all liquids and procedures are according to the recommendations of the IETS Manual.

2.2.25 All materials and equipment used for the collection, manipulation, cultivation, washing, freezing and storage with the oocytes/embryos are new or are cleaned and sterilised before being used, according to the recommendations of IETS Manual.

2.2.26 Only embryos from the same female donor are stored in an ampoule, a canister or straw.

2.2.27 If it is possible, depending on the species, the embryos will be frozen in fresh liquid nitrogen or other cryopreservatives, and then will be stored in fresh cryopreservatives in tanks and containers cleaned and sterilised, keeping rigorous hygiene conditions, and stored in a storage place.

2.2.28 The ampoule, canister or the straws will be sealed at the time of freezing and labelled according to the IETS Manual.

2.2.29 The nitrogen containers were sealed under veterinary supervision in New Zealand before export.

2.2.30 The embryos must not be exported until the veterinary certificate has been completed.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 and used, but not defined in this document, has the same meaning as in this Act.

Explanatory note

These overseas market access requirements are based on the new export certificate for the exportation of bovine embryos (in-vitro) to Colombia, dated 21 September 2011.

Additional Information for OMAR Notification: BOVEMBEC1.COL 21.09.11

1. This is a new OMAR. It is based on the import health conditions received from ICA in June 2011. The certificate was approved by Colombia on 12 November 2011.

2. An Import Permit is required.

3. This certificate may be used for the export of in-vitro produced embryos.

4. Clause 2.2.23: a semen centre eligible for Colombia is interpreted as meaning approved by MAF and ICA for Colombia.

5. Clause 2.2.29: the container used for the transport of the bovine embryos must be labelled, and the label should contain the following information: number of seal, quantity of straws and identification of donor animals. The container must be checked and sealed by an Official Veterinarian.

6. The original test results for the donor animals must be attached to the certificate.

Section 61.A of the Animal Products Amendments Act 2005 states that 'The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material; or animal product to that market