



Natural Sausage Casings

SAUSCASE.GEN

10 August 2016

Title

Guidance Document: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance.

About this document

This guidance document contains information about acceptable ways of ensuring compliance with the requirements in the *Import Health Standard (IHS): IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*.

Any guidance on how to comply with the applicable requirements may not be the only way to achieve compliance. Stakeholders are encouraged to discuss departures from the approaches outlined in this guidance document with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to avoid expending resources on the development of alternative approaches which may later be considered unsuitable.

The term “must” is not typically used in guidance. In this particular document if the term “must” is used, it is used in the context of quoting or paraphrasing the requirements set out in the related *IHS: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*.

Related Requirements

Import Health Standard: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance

Document history

Refer to Appendix 1.

Contact Details

For further information and questions about this guidance document, please contact:

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Disclaimer

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1 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document has been issued to accompany the *IHS: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*. This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that IHS.
- (2) This document includes:
 - a) Countries with MPI-recognised exporting systems to import natural sausage casings into New Zealand.
 - b) A model veterinary certificate.
 - c) Negotiated country-specific veterinary certificates.

2 Background

- (1) The *IHS: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*, which this guidance document accompanies, contains generic import requirements. These are the rules to manage the biosecurity risk of importing natural sausage casings from all countries that can meet the requirements of the IHS and in doing so meet New Zealand's appropriate level of protection. The generic IHS serves as the basis for country-to-country (bilateral) negotiations. This guidance document contains a model veterinary certificate and the bilaterally-agreed veterinary certification for trade in natural sausage casings under this IHS. This country-specific veterinary certificate represents what will be certified prior to exporting consignments of natural sausage casings from the country specified.
- (2) General information about importing animal products can be found here: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/>

3 Definitions

- (1) Refer to Schedule 2 of the *IHS: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*.

4 Importer Responsibilities

- (1) The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of natural sausage casings will be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) and any regulations made under that Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.
- (2) Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of the IHS may be re-shipped, rendered or destroyed using an MPI-approved destruction method.

5 Guidance

5.1 Equivalence

- (1) MPI may accept an alternative method, system or process that can be shown to achieve the biosecurity requirements of the IHS (i.e. equivalence).
- (2) MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.
- (3) An import permit is not required to import natural sausage casings into New Zealand if the requirements of the IHS are met.

- (4) A permit may be required where specific equivalence measures are approved by MPI. An import permit serves as evidence of equivalence decisions and will be written as specific notes in the special conditions section of the permit.
- (5) Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at: [Animal Products Permit Application Form](#)
- (6) Completed applications are lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

5.2 Food Act 2014 and Animal Products Act 1999

- (1) Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with relevant requirements of the Food Act 2014, the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, and the Animal Products Act 1999. Importers of food intended for sale for human consumption must be registered with MPI. These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements. Importers are advised to consult MPI's website: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/meat/steps-to-importing/>.
- (2) The importation of the following animal material or product must comply with the inspection requirements issued in *Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR) 01/172* under the Animal Products Act 1999:
 - a) Imported animal material or product, or product containing animal material or product, that is of New Zealand origin and have been returned to New Zealand for domestic sale or use, or for re-export, and
 - b) Imported animal material or product of foreign origin intended for export or further processing for export.
- (3) A prerequisite requirement of this OMAR is biosecurity clearance. The inspection requirements can be found at: <http://foodsafety.govt.nz/industry/general/animal-products/omars/01-172.htm>

5.3 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements. This is done because technical documents are too large or impractical to include in the IHS.
- (2) Where the IHS states that section 142O(1) of the Act does not apply, this means that importers need to refer to the most recent version of any standards, guidelines or lists that are incorporated by reference in the IHS.

5.4 Harmonised system (HS) codes

- (1) The harmonised system is an international product numbering classification developed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO). The New Zealand harmonised system is found here: <http://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/classifications-and-standards/classification-related-stats-standards/harmonised-system-2012.aspx>
- (2) Animal products imported using the IHS will be under one of the following HS Codes:

HS Code	Commodity Description
050400	Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof: Prepared for use as sausage casings

5.5 Exporting country systems and certification

5.5.1 Recognition of exporting systems

- (1) MPI recommends Competent Authorities that request the recognition of their exporting systems refer to Section 3 of the *Code* titled *Quality of Veterinary Services*, to prepare evidence for MPI regarding capabilities and preferences of the exporting country's Competent Authority.
- (2) The table below lists those exporting countries with recognised export systems that meet the requirements set out in the *IHS: IHS Natural Sausage Casings - Guidance*.

Countries with recognised exporting systems	Date agreed

5.5.2 Agreed country-specific veterinary certificates

- (1) Requests from exporting countries to negotiate veterinary certification for the import of natural sausage casings into New Zealand will be prioritised according to MPI resources available at the time of application.
- (2) A model veterinary certificate is provided in this guidance document and can be used by the Competent Authority as a reference for country-specific veterinary certificate negotiation.
- (3) All country-specific veterinary certificates agreed between an exporting country's Competent Authority and MPI are included in the table below:

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use

- (4) Country-specific veterinary certificates with equivalent measures will be recorded with a number relevant to a Chief Technical Officer (CTO) direction under section 27(1)d(iii) of the Act, to enable border staff to clear the goods and record the number in the MPI database.
- (5) When a newly negotiated country-specific veterinary certificate replaces one which is currently in use, the application of new import conditions will apply according to the dates listed in the table. At that time previous veterinary certificates for that country can no longer be used.

5.6 Inspection and verification

- (1) On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector. The inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment on arrival.
- (2) Inspectors are able to inspect and verify due to their authorised powers under the Act.
- (3) These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements.

6 Model veterinary certificate

- (1) Below is a model veterinary certificate for trade in natural sausage casings. This model meets the requirements of the IHS.

Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Address:	1.2. Certificate reference number:											
		1.3. Competent Authority:											
	1.4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:												
	1.5. Country of origin: ISO Code*	1.6. Zone or compartment of origin:**											
	1.7. Country of destination: ISO Code*	1.8. Zone or compartment of destination:**											
	1.9. Manufacturing premise: Name: Address:												
	1.10. Port of export:	1.11. Date of departure:											
	1.12. Means of transport: <input type="checkbox"/> Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Identification:	1.13. Expected border post:											
	1.14. Description of commodity:	1.15. Commodity Code (HS Code):											
		1.16. Total quantity:											
1.17. Total number of packages:													
1.18. Identification of container/serial number:	1.19. Type of packaging:												
1.20. Identification of commodity:													
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Species</th> <th>Quantity</th> <th>Packaging</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Species	Quantity	Packaging									
Species	Quantity	Packaging											
* Optional ** If referenced in Part 2													

Country:	Certificate reference number:
<p>I, the undersigned Official Veterinarian, certify that the product(s) of animal origin described above satisfy(ies) the following requirements:</p> <p>For all casings</p> <p>(1) All animals from which the casings were produced passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections according to the <i>Code</i>.</p> <p>(2) The gut contents of casings were removed and the casings were cleaned and scraped according to GMP or HACCP programmes to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;">  </div> <p>For casings from cattle</p> <p>(3) Either [delete (a) or (b)]:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(a) The casings were derived from cattle continuously resident in a country, zone, or compartment with a negligible risk for BSE, as determined by the OIE; or</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(b) The distal ileum has been removed.</p> <p>(4) The casings have been salted for at least 30 days with dry salt (NaCl) or with saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$), or with phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$) containing 86.5% NaCl, 10.7% Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8% Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight), and kept at a temperature of greater than 12°C during this entire period.</p> <p>For casings from sheep and/or goats</p> <p>(5) The casings have been salted for at least 30 days with dry salt (NaCl) or with saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$), or with phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$) containing 86.5% NaCl, 10.7% Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8% Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight), and kept at a temperature of greater than 12°C during this entire period.</p> <p>For casings from pigs</p> <p>(6) Either [delete (a) or (b)]:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(a) The casings have been derived from animals continuously resident in countries, zones, or compartments where Classical Swine Fever Virus has not been recognised in accordance with the <i>Code</i> for the 12 months prior to slaughter; and the casings have been salted for at least 30 days with dry salt (NaCl) or with saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$), or with phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$) containing 86.5% NaCl, 10.7% Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8% Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight), and kept at a temperature of greater than 12°C during this entire period; or</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(b) The casings have been salted for at least 30 days with phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$) containing 86.5% NaCl, 10.7% Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8% Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight), and kept at a temperature of greater than 20°C during this entire period.</p>	

Part 2: Veterinary Information

	<p>Official Veterinarian</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Email:</p>	<p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p> <div data-bbox="1204 369 1428 526" style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 150px; height: 100px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"><p>[Official Veterinarian signature, Official stamp and date]</p></div>
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Appendix 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
10 August 2016	Guidance Document: Natural Sausage Casings	SAUSCASE.GEN
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode