



Import Health Standard

Importation of Pig Semen

PIGSEMIC.GEN

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Issuing Authority

This standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

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For Director General
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(Under delegated authority)

Contents

Part A: Introduction	1
Background	1
Scope	1
Outcomes	1
Part B: Definitions	2
Part C: General Requirements	3
Approved countries	3
Documentation	3
Laboratory testing	4
Donor eligibility	4
Semen collection centre requirements	4
Donor and semen collection centre health status	5
Semen collection, processing, storage and transport	5
Part D: Specific Requirements	6
African swine fever (ASF)	6
Aujeszky's disease (AD)	6
Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD-2)	6
Classical swine fever (CSF)	7
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	7
Japanese encephalitis (JE)	8
Porcine myocarditis (Bungowannah virus)	8
Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS)	8
Swine vesicular disease (SVD)	9
<i>Brucella suis</i>	10
<i>Leptospira</i> spp.	10
Part E: Equivalence	10

Part A: Introduction

Background

1. Under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the Import Health Standard for Pig Semen.
2. A guidance document issued by MPI accompanies this import health standard. The guidance document provides information relevant to how requirements may be met and includes definitions of general terms used in this standard.

Scope

3. This standard specifies the requirements that must be met to import pig semen to New Zealand.
4. For the purposes of this standard pig semen means frozen or fresh semen derived from any domesticated member of the family Suidae.
5. All imported consignments of pig semen must meet the requirements specified in this standard, including the general requirements contained in Part B of this standard, and the specific requirements contained in Part C of this standard.

Outcomes

6. All imports of pig semen must be subject to risk management measures for specified risk organisms appropriate to the status of the risk organism, their likelihood of entry and/or establishment in New Zealand and consequent impacts.
7. The risk organisms associated with pig semen that are subject to specific risk management requirements are:
 - a. African swine fever (ASF) virus
 - b. Aujeszky's disease (AD) virus
 - c. Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD-2) virus
 - d. Blue eye disease
 - e. Classical swine fever (CSF) virus
 - f. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) virus
 - g. Japanese encephalitis (JE) virus
 - h. Porcine myocarditis virus (Bungowannah virus)
 - i. Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus
 - j. Swine vesicular disease (SVD) virus
 - k. Transmissible gastroenteritis
 - l. *Brucella suis*
 - m. *Leptospira* spp.
8. For each risk organism, specific risk management requirements are specified in Part C using the general form:
 - a. Country, zone or compartment freedom; OR
 - b. Specified measures to verify premises and/or donor freedom.

9. MPI will, in conjunction with the Competent Authority of the approved exporting country, determine the content of the veterinary certificate to achieve an equivalent level of risk management as specified by this standard, taking into account:
 - a. the verifiable health status of the exporting country/zone/compartment; AND
 - b. the national systems and standards in the exporting country for regulatory oversight of the germplasm industry; AND
 - c. the capabilities and preferences of the exporting country's Competent Authority.
10. Country-specific veterinary certificate templates are included in the Guidance Document for importing pig semen.

Incorporation of material by reference

11. The following international standards are incorporated by reference in this import health standard under section 142M of the Biosecurity Act:

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (available at the OIE website free of charge:

<http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>

The World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code. (available at the OIE Website free of charge: <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/>)

Under section 142O (3) of the Biosecurity Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply, that is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Biosecurity Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces the above listed standards has legal effect as part of these documents.

Part B: Definitions

The definitions below relate to specific terms used in this standard. Words used but not defined in this standard have the same meaning as words defined in the Biosecurity Act, 1993.

Batch

The unique identifier for the semen from that donor. In most cases it is all of the semen from that donor for that day. The unique batch reference of the semen allows traceability to the donor and date of collection.

Collection period

Period from the first day of semen collection of the donor boar up to, and including the last day of semen collection of the donor boar for the consignment of pig semen destined for export to New Zealand.

Competent Authority

The Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member that has the responsibility and competence for ensuring, or supervising, the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards, and recommendations in the Terrestrial OIE Code in the whole territory.

Donor boars

Pigs from which semen was collected.

Germplasm

Animal genetic material, i.e. semen and embryos.

Herd of origin

The herd in which the donor boar resided prior to entering the semen collection centre. If the donor animal has been in the semen collection centre for more than 30 days the semen collection centre herd can be deemed to be the herd of origin.

Official veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of the exporting country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of the Certification Procedures Chapter of the OIE Code pertaining to principles of certification.

OIE Code

The World Organisation for Animal Health's Terrestrial Animal Health Code, or any code that replaces that code – available online at <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>.

Terrestrial Manual

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (available at the OIE website free of charge: <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/>)

Permit to Import

A permit issued by the Director General or person authorised by the Director General of MPI under section 24(D)(2) of the Biosecurity Act 1993. See Guidance Document for how to apply for a permit.

Veterinary certificate

A certificate, signed by an official veterinarian of the exporting country's Competent Authority, issued in conformity with the provisions of the OIE guidelines on certification procedures. See Guidance Document for model veterinary certificates.

Part C: General Requirements

Approved countries

12. Countries must be approved by MPI to export pig semen to New Zealand. A list of approved countries is included in the guidance document for this standard.

Documentation

13. The consignment must be accompanied by the following documentation:
 - Copy of the permit to import issued by MPI; AND
 - Veterinary certificate; AND
 - Copies, original laboratory reports or tabulated summary of laboratory results (must include unique identification for each donor, consistent with the veterinary

certificate; date(s) of semen collection, date(s) of sample collection; test undertaken; report result).

NOTE Copies or tabulated summaries are only accepted if endorsed by the Official Veterinarian, see below.

14. The documentation must:
 - a. be original, unless otherwise stated; AND
 - b. accompany the consignment and must be provided to the Official Veterinarian at the port of entry; AND
 - c. be in English, or have an English translation that is clear and legible; AND
 - d. be endorsed by the Official Veterinarian with their original stamp, signature and date on every page (except the permit to import) or MPI approved alternate security features offered by paper certificates; AND
 - e. be supplied to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the New Zealand port of entry at least one working day before arrival.

Laboratory testing

15. All required laboratory testing must be conducted at a laboratory approved or endorsed by the Competent Authority of the exporting country to conduct export testing.
16. Laboratory or other diagnostic tests must be those prescribed for that disease by the OIE for use during international trade, or specifically approved by MPI.

Donor eligibility

17. Donor boars must have lived continuously in the exporting country for at least 90 days and in the herd of origin for at least 30 days immediately prior to their entry into isolation prior to collection of semen for export to New Zealand.

Semen collection centre requirements

18. Semen must be collected, handled, prepared, processed and stored under the supervision of the approved semen collection centre veterinarian and in accordance with the OIE Code.
19. Pig semen must be collected, handled, prepared, processed and stored at semen collection centres approved for export by the Competent Authority. Semen collection centres must be subject to regular inspection by an Official Veterinarian and must be under the supervision of a semen collection centre veterinarian approved by the Competent Authority. The name and approval numbers of these semen collection centres must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

Donor and semen collection centre health status

20. The donor boars must not be resident in any establishment that is subject to quarantine restrictions, for at least the 90 days before the first semen collection for this consignment to New Zealand until completion of the testing of the donors as required by this standard.
21. Prior to admission to the semen collection centre, the donors must be isolated for at least 30 days at a place specifically approved for this purpose by the Competent Authority. During this time they are not used for natural mating and must be isolated from animals not of equivalent health status.
22. The approved semen collection centre veterinarian is responsible for ensuring that, on the day(s) of collection of the semen, the health status of each donor is monitored and recorded, and the donor does not show any clinical evidence of infectious diseases transmissible in semen.

Semen collection, processing, storage and transport

23. Semen must be collected, handled, prepared, processed and stored under the supervision of the approved semen collection centre veterinarian and in accordance with the OIE Code.
24. Antibiotics must be added to the semen diluent in accordance with the OIE Code chapter on collection and processing of pig semen. The names of antibiotics added and their concentration must be stated on the veterinary certificate. After addition of antibiotics, semen must have been held at a temperature of not less than 5 degrees Celsius (for semen to be frozen) or 15 degrees Celsius (for fresh semen) for at least 45 minutes.
25. All straws must be sealed and have a legible permanent mark to identify the donor and the date(s) of collection. If a code is used for this information, its decipher must accompany the consignment. The marking should, in accordance with the OIE Code, conform to the international standards of the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR; www.icar.org).
26. The semen can only be stored with germplasm that has been collected and processed in compliance with the OIE Code. Containers must be held until export in a storage place approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.
27. Frozen semen must be placed in transport containers filled with fresh (previously unused) liquid nitrogen. Transport containers may be either new (or disposable in the case of fresh semen) or disinfected. For the transport container used to transport the semen to New Zealand, the disinfectant used, its active chemical and date of disinfection must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.
28. The transport container, in which the semen is to be transported to New Zealand, must be sealed, by either the semen collection centre veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper evident seals. The seal number must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

Part D: Specific Requirements

African swine fever (ASF)

EITHER

29. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country or zone free from ASF in accordance with the guidelines of the OIE Code.

OR

30. Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with relevant aspects of the OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

Aujeszky's disease (AD)

EITHER

31. Semen originates from donor boars that were kept in a semen collection centre located in an AD-free country or zone (in accordance with the guidelines of the OIE Code) at the time of semen collection.

OR

32. Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with relevant aspects with OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

Blue eye disease virus

EITHER

33. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country recognised by MPI as being free from blue eye disease.

OR

34. Semen originates from donor boars that have been subject to serological testing using MPI approved tests with negative results.

Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD-2)

EITHER

35. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in countries that are free from BVD-2.

OR

36. Semen originates from donor boars that were tested for antibody to BVD-2 virus by a MPI approved test at least 21 days after collection of the semen batch for export, with negative results.

Classical swine fever (CSF)

EITHER

37. Semen originates from donor boars have lived their entire lives in countries that are free from CSF (in accordance with the guidelines of the OIE Code).

OR

38. Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with relevant aspects of the OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

EITHER

39. Donors were resident for at least 3 months before semen collection in a country or zone that is free from FMD without vaccination (in accordance with the guidelines of the OIE Code).

OR

40.
 - a. The herds of origin, semen collection centre, donor animals and semen for export comply with OIE Code recommendations for export of pig semen from countries or zones presenting a risk of FMD;

AND

- b. The semen collection, processing and storage facility in the exporting country used during the preparation of the consignment to New Zealand has been approved by MPI. The approval will be dependent on the facility, its location and operating standards, and that the verification systems of the Competent Authority achieve a very high level of risk management for FMD. The process for MPI approval may include site inspection. MPI reserves the right to supervise collection, require the use of New Zealand approved semen collection personnel, or require any other measures deemed necessary to ensure compliance with facility and operating standards upon which the approval is based.

Japanese encephalitis (JE)

41. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in zones that are free from JE virus at the time of semen collection.

Porcine myocarditis (Bungowannah virus)

EITHER

42. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country, zone or compartment that is free from porcine myocarditis virus.

OR

43.
 - a. Donor boars originated from properties where porcine myocarditis has been diagnosed and were isolated and tested using MPI approved tests to demonstrate they were seropositive for porcine myocarditis virus and negative for porcine myocarditis virus RNA before entering the semen collection centre;

AND

- b. An aliquot of each batch of semen to be imported was tested by a MPI approved RT-PCR test, with negative results.

Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS)

EITHER

44. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country recognised by MPI as being free from PRRS.

OR

45. Boars were sourced from donor herds that do not vaccinate against PRRS, and were tested by a multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies that uses both European and American strain antigens with negative results before entering the semen collection centre;

AND

- a. At the start of the collection period and no less than 30 days subsequently, donor boars were tested for PRRS virus by serum PCR, with negative results;

AND

- b. 21 to 50 days after the final semen collection, donor boars were tested by a multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies that uses both European and American strain antigens, with negative results.

Swine vesicular disease (SVD)

EITHER

46. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country free from SVD (in accordance with the guidelines of the OIE Code).

OR

47. Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with the relevant aspects of the OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE)

EITHER

48. Semen originates from donor boars that have been resident since birth in a country in which TGE is officially notifiable and no clinical case has been recorded in the previous three years;

AND

Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with the relevant aspects of the OIE Guide guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

OR

49. The donor boars showed no clinical sign of TGE on the day of collection of the semen;

AND

the donor boars have been resident for at least 40 days on an artificial insemination centre, and all the pigs on this artificial insemination centre were free from clinical signs of TGE during the 12 months prior to collection;

AND

for fresh semen, the donor boars were subjected to a diagnostic test for TGE with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection;

for frozen semen, the donor boars were subjected to a diagnostic test for TGE with negative results at least 14 days after collection;

AND

Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of porcine semen.

Brucella suis

EITHER

50. Semen originates from donor boars that have lived their entire lives in a country that is free from *B. suis*.

OR

51. Semen originates from a semen collection centre that complies with OIE Code guidelines for general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres and also complies with relevant aspects of the OIE Code guidelines on the collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen.

Leptospira spp.

52. Semen diluents containing antibiotics effective against *Leptospira* spp. were used in the preparation of the semen.

Part E: Equivalence

The requirements for importation of pig semen are met if, in the opinion of the Director-General, the measures taken for managing the risks associated with the importation of those goods, are equally effective at managing those risks as the requirements specified in (1) to (52) above. If an equivalence measure(s) is approved, MPI will issue a Permit to Import with the equivalent measure(s) as special conditions.