

## **Export Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999**

### **Regulation and Assurance Branch, Animal and Animal Products Directorate, Ministry for Primary Industries**

Ref: AE-AU-21L

Date: 6 October 2014

### **RABANIEC.AU 7 OCTOBER 2014 – COMPANION RABBITS (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) TO AUSTRALIA**

#### **1. Statutory authority**

Pursuant to section 60, section 60A, section 62(1) and section 167 of the Animal Products Act 1999 I notify the following:

- (i) the issue under section 60 of the export requirements for Companion Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) to Australia RABANIEC.AU dated 7 October 2014;
- (ii) the determination under section 62(1) of the format and content of the official assurance for Companion Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) to Australia.

This notice takes effect from the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2014.

Dated at Wellington this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014.

Signed: Howard Pharo  
Manager Import and Export Animals  
Animal and Animal Products Directorate  
Regulation and Assurance Branch  
(acting under delegated authority)

#### **2. Australia requirements**

Companion rabbits exported from New Zealand to Australia must be accompanied by an official assurance in the form of a completed zoosanitary certificate.

The zoosanitary certificate as specified below must be completed and certified, after due enquiry, by an Official Veterinarian of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Explanatory note:

If the zoosanitary certificate is not certified then the rabbits do not satisfy the conditions in the notice. Likewise, if the rabbits do not satisfy the zoosanitary requirements in the certificate, then the certificate will not be certified.



Certificate No: .....

**NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES**

**ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE**

Commodity: COMPANION RABBITS (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)  
 To: AUSTRALIA  
 Exporting Country: NEW ZEALAND  
 Competent Authority: MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
 Import Permit number: .....

**I. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS**

Microchip Number	Location of Microchip	Species	Description	Sex	Age

Total number of rabbits: .....

**II. SOURCE OF ANIMALS**

Name and address of exporter: .....

.....

Premises of origin of rabbits:.....

**III. DESTINATION OF ANIMALS**

Name and address of consignee: .....

.....

Means and identification of transport:.....

**IV. SANITARY INFORMATION**

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I....., being an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, certify after due enquiry in regards to the animals identified in the zoosanitary certificate, that:

- 1 No case of the disease Tularaemia (*Francisella tularensis*) has been diagnosed in New Zealand in the two (2) years prior to certification.
- 2 So far as can be determined there is no evidence of the following diseases or infectious agents at the premises where the companion rabbit has resided during the twelve (12) months prior to export:
  - *Treponema cuniculi* (treponematosi)
  - *Encephalitozoon cuniculi* (encephalitozoonosis)
  - *Yersinia pestis* (sylvatic plague)
  - European brown hare syndrome
  - Rabbit enterocolitis
- 3 As far as can be determined, each rabbit for export has been continuously resident in New Zealand for six (6) months prior to export or since birth.
- 4 Each rabbit for export was examined by an Official Veterinarian during the forty eight (48) hours immediately prior to export and was found to be clinically healthy and free from evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and visible, palpable tumours and external parasites, and was fit to travel.
- 5 All other rabbits on the premises of origin were inspected and found to be clinically healthy and free from evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and external parasites during the forty eight (48) hours immediately prior to the rabbit(s) being exported.
- 6 Pre-export testing and treatment:
  - a) The rabbit for export has not been vaccinated for myxomatosis.
  - b) During the four (4) days immediately prior to export, each rabbit was treated with imidacloprid in accordance with manufacturer's directions:

Name of product: .....

Dose rate: .....

Dosage administered: .....

.....  
Signature of Official Veterinarian  
Ministry for Primary Industries

.....  
Official Stamp and Date

.....  
Name and Address

**NOTE: The Official Veterinarian must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate using a different colour ink to the paper and the print, and, where applicable, sign, date and stamp each page of the documents (e.g. laboratory reports) that form part of the extended health certification.**

## EXPORT CERTIFICATION

(This is not part of the official certification)

**COMMODITY: COMPANION RABBITS**

**COUNTRY: AUSTRALIA**

**NOTES:** This certificate replaces the revoked certificate dated 1 March 2013. The certificate has been updated to reflect new Department of Agriculture Australia requirements. The previous version of 1 March 2013 replaced that dated 7 November 2008, which was updated for editorial purposes.

1. These requirements apply to the importation of companion rabbits from New Zealand. Companion rabbits are defined as domestic rabbits, species *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, which belong to a household in which there are no more than ten (10) rabbits more than six (6) months of age.
2. An Import Permit is required and must be valid at the time the rabbits are imported into Australia. Permit applications must be sent to Animal Operations Branch – The Department of Agriculture Canberra, for assessment:

Animal Import Operations Branch  
The Department of Agriculture  
Fax +61 2 62723110  
Phone +61 2 62724454  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra 2601  
Email [animalimports@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:animalimports@agriculture.gov.au)

3. Refer to Import permit or Department of Agriculture website for conditions of administration and post-arrival quarantine:  
[http://apps.daff.gov.au/icon32/asp/ex\\_casecontent.asp?intNodeId=9070060&intCommodityId=6784&Types=none&WhichQuery=Go+to+full+text&intSearch=1&LogSessionID=0](http://apps.daff.gov.au/icon32/asp/ex_casecontent.asp?intNodeId=9070060&intCommodityId=6784&Types=none&WhichQuery=Go+to+full+text&intSearch=1&LogSessionID=0)
4. Importers may wish to have unvaccinated rabbits vaccinated against rabbit haemorrhagic disease (rabbit calicivirus) prior to export, due to the presence of this disease in Australia.
5. Please note: It is illegal to have rabbits as pets in the state of Queensland; therefore pet rabbits cannot be imported into this state.
6. The design of the container(s) used to transport the animal(s) must comply with the International Air Transport Associations (IATA) Live Animal regulations.
7. The use of hay or straw as bedding during transport by air is not permitted; treated wood shavings, sterilised peat and soft board may be used.

**Section 61A Animal Products Act 1999 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'**