Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Animal Products Notice

Hormonal Growth Promotants

21 May 2024

Issued under the Animal Products Act 1999

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

TITLE

Animal Products Notice: Hormonal Growth Promotants

COMMENCEMENT

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 1 July 2024

REVOCATION

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces the Animal Products Notice: Regulated Control Scheme for Hormonal Growth Promotants, which was issued on 22 June 2017.

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Animal Products Notice is issued under section 167(2) of the Animal Products Act 1999 and supplements Regulation 182 of the Animal Products Regulations 2021.

Dated at Wellington, 21 May 2024

[signed]

Karen Booth
Director, Assurance (Acting)
Ministry for Primary Industries
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Animal Products Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

The purpose of this Notice is to specify requirements in relation to animals treated with agricultural compounds containing hormonal growth promotants and animal material and animal products derived from such animals.

Background

The Animal Product Regulations 2021 require users of specified agricultural compounds to meet the requirements specified in a supplementary notice. This Notice must be read in conjunction with the Animal Product Regulations 2021 and the conditions of registration imposed on hormonal growth promotant products under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997. Further information on these conditions of registration can be found by searching the names of individual products on the Ministry for Primary Industries website at https://eatsafe.nzfsa.govt.nz/web/public/acvm-register.

Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

This Notice should be read by anyone who treats, owns, is in control of, supplies, slaughters, processes, or records information about animals treated with agricultural compounds containing hormonal growth promotants.

Why is this important?

Any failure to operate in accordance with this Notice may result in the loss of export eligibility of animal material or animal product to which the non-compliance relates.

Regulation 170 of the Animal Products Regulations 2021 provides for a surveillance list of risk sources under surveillance. A person in charge of an animal implanted with a hormonal growth promotant who fails to operate in accordance with this Notice may be added to the surveillance list.

For the purposes of section 135(1)(c) of the Animal Products Act 1999, a failure to comply with this Notice, without reasonable excuse, is an offence.

Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
May 2024		New document

Part 1: Preliminary

1.1 Definitions

(1) In this Notice, unless the context otherwise requires:

animal means a bovine animal;

HGP means a veterinary medicine registered under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 as a hormonal growth promotant;

HGP ear tag means an ear tag that is a two-piece orange rectangular plastic ear tag, no smaller than 50 mm x 16 mm, that bears only the words "growth promotant" clearly printed;

NAIT device has the meaning given in section 4 of the National Animal Identification and Tracing Act 2012;

person in charge means a person in charge of an animal from the time an HGP is implanted into that animal until the time the HGP implanted animal is supplied for slaughter;

technician means a person trained and employed by a veterinarian to implant an HGP.

(2) Unless the context otherwise requires, any term defined in the Animal Products Act 1999, Animal Products Regulations 2021, or the Animal Products Notice: Production, Supply and Processing and used in this Notice but not defined has the meaning given in that Act, Regulations, or Animal Products Notice.

Part 2: HGP management and animal identification

2.1 Implanting an HGP

(1) The following persons may implant an animal with an HGP:

a) a veterinarian;
b) a technician; or
c) a person in charge of an animal acting under the direct supervision of a veterinarian or technician.

(2) No person may implant an HGP into:

a) a lactating dairy cow;
b) a cow intended to produce milk for human consumption; or
c) a bobby calf.

2.2 Animal identification

(1) A person in charge must ensure that an animal is fitted with a NAIT device before implanting an HGP.

(2) A person in charge must fit an animal with an HGP ear tag immediately prior to implantation with an HGP.

(3) No person may use an HGP ear tag for any purpose other than identification of an animal implanted with an HGP.

(4) No person may remove an HGP or an HGP ear tag from any live animal.

(5) A veterinarian must provide the Director-General with the following information for every animal identified with an HGP ear tag within 10 working days of the HGP ear tag being fitted:

a) the scanned record of the NAIT device;
b) the date of HGP tag application; and
c) the name of the veterinarian and veterinary practice.

(6) The veterinarian must keep written records of the information collected under clause 2.2(5) for a period of at least 4 years from the date of HGP implantation.

(7) A person in charge of an animal implanted with an HGP must fit a new HGP ear tag if the original HPG ear tag is missing from the animal.

(8) Where the person in charge fits a new NAIT device to an animal implanted with an HGP:

a) the person in charge must provide the veterinarian with the new NAIT device identification number.
b) the veterinarian must provide the new NAIT device identification number to the Director-General within 10 working days of notification.

Part 3: Processing

3.1 Requirements

(1) Where HGP status is required for official assurance, a primary processor must scan the NAIT device of every animal and compare it with the Ministry for Primary Industries list of the NAIT device numbers of animals implanted with an HGP.

(2) If the NAIT device cannot be scanned, a primary processor must compare the NAIT device visual identifier with the Ministry for Primary Industries list of animals implanted with an HGP visual identifiers.

(3) A primary processor must identify an animal as implanted with an HGP if any of the following apply:

a) the animal has an HGP ear tag;
b) the NAIT device identification number is found on the Ministry for Primary Industries list of NAIT device identification numbers for animals implanted with an HGP;
c) the animal is declared as HGP implanted on the supplier declaration;
d) the animal is not fitted with a NAIT device;
e) the NAIT device cannot be scanned and the NAIT device visual identifier cannot be read;
f) there is evidence, or suspected use, of an HGP found at post-mortem inspection;
g) laboratory testing shows the presence of an HGP implant or the active ingredient of an HGP in the animal;
h) if the animal has no HGP ear tag and its NAIT device identification number is not found on the Ministry for Primary Industries list of animals implanted with an HGP, but is presented for slaughter with other animals implanted with HGPs from the same supplier, at the same time, and its freedom from HGP implantation cannot be independently confirmed; or
i) there is another reason for the primary processor to suspect that an HGP has been implanted into the animal.

(4) A primary processor must process an animal identified as implanted with an HGP separately from other animals.

(5) A primary processor must ensure that each carcass and edible offal from an animal implanted with an HGP can be identified as an animal implanted with an HGP at all stages of processing.

(6) The primary processor must inform the verifier or verifying agency when:

a) an animal implanted with an HGP is received for slaughter, and:

i) the HGP ear tag or NAIT device is missing; or
ii) the HGP section of the supplier declaration is incomplete or incorrect.

b) the results of scanning indicate the animal could be HGP implanted, and:

i) it is not declared as HGP implanted on the supplier declaration; or
ii) it does not have an HGP ear tag.

3.2 Documented systems and access to records

(1) A primary processor must have a documented procedure for identifying and separating animal material or animal product derived from an animal implanted with an HGP from animal material or animal product derived from other animals.

(2) When a non-compliance with the primary processor's documented procedure is identified, the primary processor must:

a) identify and record the reasons for the non-compliance;
b) record the disposition of the animal material or product;
c) ensure the animal's status is declared correctly; and

d) ensure corrective action is undertaken to prevent a recurrence.

(3) A primary processor must keep records on the processing of animals implanted with HGPs, including any animal that meets the criteria set in clause 3.1(6), for a period (in relation to each animal) of at least 4 years from the date of processing of that animal.

(4) These records must be kept in a readily accessible form and made available on written request to an animal product officer, verifier, or Director-General.