Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Guidance Document

Alpacas and Llamas

9 February 2018

Growing and Protecting New Zealand

Ministry for Primary Industries
Standards
Animal & Animal Products
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Contents

Foreword

This guidance document accompanies the *Import Health Standard for Alpacas and Llamas* (camaniic.gen). This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that import health standard (IHS) to ensure that the requirements for meeting the IHS are fully understood. Importers are strongly advised to seek MPI guidance if they are unclear on any part prior to undertaking any activities relating to the importation alpacas or llamas.

Contact details

For all matters relating to the standard and this guidance document, please contact:

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Importer responsibilities

The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of alpacas and/or llamas must be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 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.

Biosecurity declaration of a controlled area notice

Under the *Biosecurity (Declaration of a Controlled Area) Notice – Echinococcus granulosus (Hydatids)*, enacted to control hydatids, the offal of all alpacas and llamas residing in New Zealand must be cooked by boiling for a minimum of 30 minutes before feeding to dogs. In addition, owners of dogs must control their dogs to prevent them from having access to raw offal from alpacas and llamas, including situations where these animals are home-killed.

If the animals undergo a change of ownership at any stage, it is the importers responsibility to advise the new owners of the above Controlled Area Notice.

Scope

In 2010 MPI conducted a risk analysis on the importation of llamas (Lama glama) and alpacas (Vicugna Pacos) from Australia, USA, Canada, the European Union, and South America. The *Import Health Standard for Alpacas and Llamas* (camaniic.gen) was written from that analysis to manage disease risk from these countries/regions specifically.

Other countries interested in exporting alpacas or llamas to New Zealand should contact the Animal Imports Team. Information about the risk analysis process is available on our website: http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/imports/ihs/risk. MPI will determine if interested countries require further risk assessment.

Summary information on approved countries

The countries currently approved to import alpacas and/or llamas into New Zealand are:

- Australia
- USA

Below is a summary of the requirements for Australia and the USA:

- Permit to import required
- Pre-export isolation required
- Veterinary certificate and laboratory report(s) (or a tabulated summary certified by an Official Veterinarian)
- Post-arrival quarantine not required

The European Union, Canada, and South America can contact the Animal Imports Team to request approval to export to New Zealand. For more information on the country approval process and importing live animals, refer to the general information for live animal importation page on our website:
http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/animals/standards/general-info-live-animals.htm

Approved diagnostic tests

The table below lists the OIE's prescribed tests for international trade. These tests are eligible for approval if validated for use with alpacas and llamas. The MPI recommended test column lists MPI's preferred tests and provides test options when none are specified in the OIE *Manual*.

The Veterinary Authority of the exporting country may suggest an alternative test. The test must be validated in alpacas and llamas and approved by MPI. All approved tests will be recorded in the table below.

Disease name	OIE prescribed test(s)	MPI recommended test(s)	Approved test(s)
Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) and infectious pustular vulvovaginitis/balanopost hitis (IPV/B)	VNT or ELISA	VNT or ELISA	
Bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD)	Antigen ELISA, VI, or RT-PCR	Antigen ELISA, VI, or RT-PCR	
Brucellosis	CFT, ELISA, fluorescence polarisation assay, or buffered Brucella antigen tests	CFT or ELISA	
Enzootic abortion	-	CFT	
Foot and mouth disease (FMD)	ELISA or VNT	ELISA	
Q fever	-	Currently no validated test available	
Surra	-	Microscopic examination of blood (concentration method) or PCR-TBR; AND ELISA or CATT/*T.evansi*	
Tuberculosis	Tuberculin test	Cranial scapular tuberculin test	
Vesicular stomatitis	Competitive or LP-ELISA, VNT, or CFT	Competitive or LP-ELISA, VNT, or CFT	

Approved treatments

Products and vaccinations administered must be recorded on the veterinary certificate. Vaccines for risk organisms must comply with the recommendations in the *Manual*, unless otherwise MPI-approved.

External parasite examination

A systematic approach is recommended and the inspection should be done under supervision of the Official Veterinarian. The inspection should be completed up to 48 hours prior to export and include close examination of the ears (inner surface of the pinna and auditory canal), tail, between the hind legs and interdigital spaces, the axillary region, groin, and infra-orbital fossa.

Model Veterinary Certificate

An original veterinary certificate that conforms with the OIE *Code* Model International Veterinary Certificate must be issued for each animal and accompany the consignment of alpacas and/or llamas to New Zealand.

The veterinary certificate for the alpacas and/or llamas must provide the following:

- Unique identification of each animal e.g. microchip number/site, International Alpaca Registry (IAR) tag and MPI tag number
- The description, species, age and sex of the alpacas and/or llamas
- The name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor)
- The import permit number
- Signed, dated and stamped on every page by the Official Veterinarian of the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country (this includes the veterinary certificates and all associated documents such as laboratory reports and vaccination certificates) or MPI approved alternative security features offered by paper certificates.
- The name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian
- All diagnostic tests used, date of sampling, and results (attached to veterinary certificate as original laboratory report, endorsed copies, or endorsed tabulated summary)
- All products used and vaccines given, including the generic name, active ingredient, dose rate, and date of treatment
- For PEI premises: name, date of entry, and operator contact details
- For disinfectants and insecticides used: date of disinfection, disinfectant name, and active chemical

All documentation (copies) must be sent to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 72 hours in advance of importation (email: liveanimalsector@mpi.govt.nz) In addition to the documentation, notification of the date, expected time and port of arrival, and the flight number or ship's name/voyage number should also be provided with notification.

The following pages show the MPI model veterinary certificate for alpacas and llamas.

Part I. Details of dispatched consignment

1. Consignor (Exporter): Name:	2. Certificate reference number:
Address:	3. Veterinary Authority:
4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:	
5. Country of origin	6. Zone or compartment of origin*:
7. Country of destination:	8. Zone or compartment of destination*:
9. Premises of origin: Name: Address:	10. Pre-export isolation Name: Address: Operator:
11. Port of origin/departure:	12. Date of departure:
13. Means of transport: Aeroplane ☐ Ship ☐	14. Flight or vessel/voyage Identification:
15. Treatment of vehicle used to transport animal(s) to port of departure (e.g. residual insecticide – date of treatment, chemical(s) used, and the active ingredient(s):	
16. Treatment of container(s) (e.g. residual insecticide – date of treatment, the chemical(s) used, and the active ingredient(s):	
17. Parasite treatment and vaccine information : Product/active ingredient: Product/active ingredient: Manufacturer: Manufacturer: Dose: Dose: Date: Date: Product/active ingredient: Product/active ingredient: Manufacturer: Manufacturer: Dose: Dose: Date: Date:	18. Total number of animals:
19. Identification of commodities: Species (Scientific name): Identification number/details: Age: Sex: Alpacas (*Vicugna pacos*) Llamas (*Lama glama*)	

* If referenced in Part II

COUNTRY: X

	II.a. Certificate reference number:

The Veterinary Authority of the exporting country is required to issue a signed, stamped and dated veterinary certificate attesting the following:

II. The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) described above satisfy(ies) the following requirements:

Pre-export isolation (PEI)

1. The MPI ear tags were applied to each animal on entry into the PEI facility and tag numbers are recorded on the veterinary certificate.
2. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were held in a PEI premises that is in accordance with appendix 1 of the *Import Health Standard for Alpacas and Llamas*
3. During PEI, the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were not naturally or artificially inseminated.

Inspection

4. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were inspected by an Official Veterinarian within 48 hours of export and were free of clinical signs of disease, including ectoparasites, and were fit to travel.

Treatment

5. All product(s) and vaccination(s) required for import of alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) into New Zealand were administered according to the manufacturer's instructions. The product names(s), manufacturer, active ingredient (where applicable), dose and date of treatment are recorded on this veterinary certificate. Any vaccine(s) administered to satisfy import requirements were either a booster or the final dose of a primary course.

Laboratory

6. Diagnostic testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the Veterinary Authority to conduct the required export testing.
7. Laboratory samples were collected, processed, and stored as recommended in the *OIE Code* and OIE *Manual.*
8. MPI ear tag numbers are recorded on laboratory reports from testing conducted during PEI.

Transport

9. The vehicle in which the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were transported to the port of departure was cleaned, disinfected and treated with an effective insecticide before loading.
10. During transport to the port of departure, the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were kept isolated from other animals not of equal tested health status.
11. Only sterile peat, soft board, treated wood shavings, shredded paper or other approved inert products were loaded for use as bedding during transportation.
12. All feed loaded for use during transport to the port of departure and to New Zealand was free from evidence of contamination with ticks, fleas, and seeds (or treated in such a way to render seeds non-viable).
13. No other animals were loaded onto the aircraft/ship OR; MPI written approval for co-loading accompanies this consignment (Delete which is not applicable).
14. As far as can be determined, for alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) transported by air, the cargo space of the aircraft will be sprayed with an effective residual insecticide.
15. During transportation, and before departure at the port of export, all animals were protected from insect vectors [where required by Part C of the *MPI Import Health Standard for Alpacas and Llamas]*
16. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were loaded into containers that were:
    a. new; or were cleaned and disinfected with an effective virucidal before loading; and
    b. treated with an effective residual insecticide.
17. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) are compliant with animal welfare requirements:
    a. No female in the consignment is in their last trimester of pregnancy; and
    b. No animal in the consignment is less than 1 month of age.

For **anthrax**

18. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);
    a. were kept for a minimum of 20 days prior to export in a PEI facility, where no case of anthrax has occurred;

Part II. Veterinary Certificate

OR

b. were vaccinated, not less than 20 days and not more than 12 months prior to export in accordance with the OIE *Manual.*

For **bovine herpes virus type 1 (BHV-1)**

19. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s):

a. were from a country recognised by MPI as being free of BHV-1.1 and BHV-1.2a; OR

b. have undergone a PEI period of 30 days and, at least 14 days after entering the facility were subjected to a OIE prescribed serologic test for BHV-1 (such as VNT or ELISA) validated for camelids, with negative results.

For **bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD)**

20. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

a. were from a country recognised by MPI as being free of BVD2; OR

b. have undergone a PEI period of 28 days and, at least 14 days after entering the facility, were subjected to an OIE prescribed test for BVD (such as antigen ELISA, VI, or RT-PCR) validated for camelids, with negative results.

For **brucellosis**

21. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

a. were from a country or zone free of *Brucella abortus, B.suis,* and *B.melitensis*; OR

b. have undergone a PEI period of at least 30 days and, have been subjected to a OIE prescribed test for brucellosis (such as CFT, ELISA, fluorescence polarisation assay, or buffered Brucella antigen tests) validated for camelids, with negative results on two occasions. There must be an interval of not less than 30 days between each test, with the second test being performed at least 15 days after entering the facility.

NOTE: These tests are considered invalid in animals which have given birth during the past 14 days.

For **endoparasites**

22. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

a. were treated twice: first, seven to 10 days prior to entering PEI; and second, 2 weeks after introduction into PEI. The second treatment used different anthelmintics than those used at the first treatment. The product(s) used are highly effective broad spectrum endoparasiticides and were applied as described in the manufacturer's instructions; AND

b. seven to 14 days after the first endoparasite treatment, the treatment efficacy was checked by a faecal flotation test and the animals were found to be parasite free (treatments and testing were repeated until confirmed to be parasite free).

For **enzootic abortion (*Chlamydophila* spp.)**

23. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

a. were from a country recognised by MPI as free of enzootic abortion; OR

b. have remained since birth or for the previous 2 years in a herd where enzootic abortion has not been diagnosed; and were tested using an MPI approved test for enzootic abortion which has been validated for camelids (such as CFT), within 30 days prior to shipment, with negative results.

For **equine herpes virus type 1 (EHV-1)**

24. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s):

a. showed no clinical sign of equine herpes virus type 1 infection (abortigenic and paralytic forms) during the 21 days prior to export; AND

b. were kept for the 21 days prior to export in a premise where no case of equine herpes virus type 1 infection (abortigenic and paralytic forms), was reported during that period.

For **foot and mouth disease virus (FMD)**

25. Alpaca(s) and/or llama(s):

a. were kept since birth, or at least the past 3 months, in an FMD free country or zone and showed no clinical signs of FMD on the day of export; AND

b. vaccination is not practised in the exporting country or zone and the animals to be imported have never been vaccinated; OR

c. vaccination is practiced in the exporting country or zone and the animals to be imported have never been vaccinated and were subjected, with negative results, to an MPI approved serological test for FMD.

For **mites, lice, ticks, and fleas**

26. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were treated twice: first within 48 hours before entering PEI; and second within 48 hours before the scheduled date of export. The product(s) used were highly effective against flies, ticks, lice and mites and were applied as described in the manufacturer's instructions; AND EITHER

    a. the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were thoroughly examined within 48 hours of export by an Official Veterinarian and there was no evidence of ectoparasite infestation; OR

    b. the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were thoroughly examined within 48 hours of export by an Official Veterinarian and ectoparasites were found. All animals in the consignment were re-treated, and then re-inspected after sufficient time for the product to be effective, and no ectoparasites were found.

For **New World and Old World screwworm**

27. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were:

    a. were from a country recognised by MPI as free of screwworm fly; OR

    b. were inspected on the premises of origin, by an Official Veterinarian, for wounds with egg masses or larvae of New World or Old World screwworm, and found to be free of infestation; AND

    c. were subjected to the following measures immediately before entering PEI and again immediately before loading for departure to the port of export:

        i. all animals were thoroughly examined and found to be free of screwworm fly infestation; and

        ii. any wounds were treated with an oily larvicide that is approved by the Veterinary Authority for the prevention of screwworm fly, and applied as described in the manufacturer's instructions; and

        iii. all animals were dipped, sprayed or otherwise treated, immediately after inspection, with a product that is approved by the Veterinary Authority for the prevention of screwworm fly and applied as described in the manufacturer's instructions.

For **psoroptid ear mites**

26. Ten days after entering PEI the alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) either:

    a. had saline flushing of both ear canals of each animal examined microscopically and the skin of the axilla, groin, infra-orbital fossa, and inner pinna and auditory canal examined for signs of mite infestation, and were found to be free of evidence of *P. ovis* mites; OR

    b. examination identified mites or evidence of mites and animal(s) were treated with an ectoparasiticide effective against ear mites and re-examined 10 days later and found to be free of *P. ovis* mites. Approved products for psoroptid ear mite treatment include: <approval granted during veterinary certificate negotiation >.

For **Q fever**

27. The animal(s) were isolated in a premise for at least 30 days prior to export, and were tested at least 21 days after entering the facility using an MPI approved test for Q fever which has been validated for camelids, with negative results.

For **rabies**

28. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s) were:

    a. exported from **a rabies free country**, and were showing no clinical sign of rabies on the day of export, and were kept since birth or for at least the past 6 months in a rabies free country as described in the *OIE Code*; OR

    b. exported from **a country in which rabies occurs**, and were showing no clinical signs of rabies on the day of export, and during the 6 months before export the animal(s) were kept in an establishment where no case of rabies has been reported for at least 12 months before export; OR

    c. Exported from **a country in which rabies occurs**, and were showing no clinical signs of rabies on the day of export, and were vaccinated or revaccinated between 6 and 12 months before importation with a vaccine produced and used in accordance with the OIE *Manual*. Proof of rabies vaccination is required.

For **surra (*Trypanosoma* spp.)**

29. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

    a. were kept since birth, or for at least the past 60 days in a country where no case of surra has been reported; OR

    b. were subjected to an MPI approved serological test for surra (such as ELISA or CATT/*T.evansi)* and validated for camelids, within one week of shipment, with negative results; AND

    c. were subjected to an MPI approved test just prior to shipment to identify *T*rypanozoon *spp*. (such as microscopic examination of a concentrated blood sample or PCR-TBR), with negative results.

For **tuberculosis**

30. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s);

a. were imported from a country or zone free of bovine tuberculosis in accordance with the OIE *Code*; OR

b. showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis on the day of export; AND

c. originated from premises where no case of bovine tuberculosis has been reported during the past 5 years; AND

d. were tested for bovine tuberculosis by an approved tuberculin test with negative results in accordance with the OIE *Manual*, applied to the cranial scapular site during the first 14 days of PEI and more than 60 days after any previous tuberculin test.

For **vesicular stomatitis** (VS)

31. The alpaca(s) and/or llama(s):

a. were kept for at least the past 21 days, in a VS free country in accordance with the OIE *Code* and showed no clinical sign of VS on the day of export; OR

b. were from a country considered infected with VS and were kept for at least the past 21 days in premises where no case of VS has been reported during that time; AND

c. the animal(s) were kept for a minimum of 30 days before export in a vector protected PEI premises and were protected from vectors at all times during transportation and before departure; AND

d. were subjected to an OIE prescribed serologic test for VS (such as ELISA, VNT, or CFT) validated for camelids and performed during the 21 days after the commencement of PEI with; EITHER

i. negative results; OR
ii. positive results and then re-tested not less than 14 days later. The result of testing indicated stable or declining titres.

Official Veterinarian:

Name and address (in capital letters):

Date: Signature:

Stamp: Contact details:

Bilaterally agreed Veterinary Certificates

This section contains the veterinary health certification agreed between the Veterinary Authority of New Zealand and specific overseas countries. The certificates must be completed by the appropriate personnel and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

The agreed certificates may record all relevant clauses as described in the model veterinary certificate. Alternatively, for current approved countries, they may be simplified to reflect MPI approved equivalent national systems of the exporting country.

The agreed country specific veterinary certificates will be added as they become available. When a newly negotiated bilateral veterinary certificate replaces one which is currently in use, there will be a transition phase of four months to allow animals to be prepared for importation in accordance with the new conditions. During this phase, both old and new import conditions will be accepted. The application of new import conditions will apply after the transition period, with dates listed in the table below. At that time the previous Veterinary Certificate for that country will be revoked and can no longer be used.

Country	Agreed on	Transition period ends on
Australia	TBD	TBD

Review and amendment

This guidance document is subject to ongoing review and amendment. MPI is committed to ensuring that guidance and advice is sought and considered prior to finalising amendments.

All stakeholders are responsible for ensuring that the most recent version of the guidance document, as available on the MPI website, is used.

Amendment	Date of amendment/version
Removal of testing method for Q fever	9 February 2018