

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF CATTLE MEAT (BEEF) PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM VANUATU

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated: 17 September 2004

USER GUIDE

The information in a MAF animal product import health standard is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections that outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, transport and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD

- 1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption from Vanuatu.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption imported into New Zealand from Vanuatu is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

2. IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.
- 2.3 Commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption in New Zealand must comply with the Food Act 1981. These requirements are independent of the import health standard requirements and are managed by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA). Importers are advised to contact the NZFSA or consult the NZFSA website: www.nzfsa.govt.nz/imported-food/index.htm
- 2.4 Once the consignment has been given biosecurity clearance into New Zealand, it is the importer's responsibility to ensure (where relevant) that the consignment complies with the Animal Products Act 1999, especially if it is returned New Zealand product, product entering operations also used for the export of animal products, or if it is to be re-exported. Information about these requirements can be obtained from the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) website: www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/omar/01-172.htm or by contacting the local NZFSA Verification Agency office. Certification and other official assurance requirements which may be applicable are accessible at: www.nzfsa.govt.nz/animalproducts/publications/manualsguides/oap/index.htm

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Biosecurity Clearance

A clearance under section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 for the entry of goods into New Zealand

Cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption

Includes all fresh and frozen meat and meat products (including offal) derived from domestic cattle, buffalo, bison and their crosses.

Director Animal Biosecurity

The Director Animal Biosecurity, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

Equivalence

Acceptance by MAF that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

New Zealand Inspector

A person who is appointed an inspector under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

MAF

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Official Veterinarian

A veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of the chapter of the OIE *Code* pertaining to principles of certification.

4. EQUIVALENCE

- 4.1 It is expected that the animal product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to MAF for consideration. Detailed information supporting the application for equivalence must be forwarded to MAF for a decision.

PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE

5. PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 5.1 Importation into New Zealand of cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption from Vanuatu which meet the requirements of this import health standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

6. ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 The cattle meat (beef) products must be identifiable as originating from Vanuatu.
- 6.2 The cattle meat (beef) products must be commercially packed in the original unopened packaging.
- 6.3 The official registration/licence/accreditation number of the meat producing establishment must appear on the meat packaging.

7. DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 7.1 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).
- 7.2 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.

PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

8. BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE

- 8.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.
- 8.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, and the consignment released to the importer.

9. NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

- 9.1 The following Model Zoosanitary Certificate contains the information required by MAF to accompany importation into New Zealand of cattle meat (beef) products for human consumption from Vanuatu:

10. MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

I. COMMODITY: CATTLE MEAT (BEEF) PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

II. CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:

- i. Agency:
- ii. Department:
- iii. Country:

III. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT

- i. Name/s and address/es of processing premises:
- ii. Processing premises registration number (if applicable):

IV. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

- i. Number of packages:
- ii. Nature of packaging:
- iii. Nature of the goods:
- iv. Animal species product derived from:
- v. Number of the container(s) and container seal number(s):
- vi. Weight in kilograms (kg):

V. CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION

- i. Name and address of exporter:
- ii. Name and address of New Zealand importer:

VI. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

- i. Port of loading/disembarkation:
- ii. Vessel/voyage number:
- iii. Port of destination in New Zealand:

VII. SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I,, an official veterinarian authorised by the Vanuatu Government certify, after due enquiry, with respect to the animal product identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1. Foot and mouth disease and rinderpest have not occurred in Vanuatu during the previous 12 months.
2. Vanuatu is recognised as free from bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) (according to Articles 2.3.13.3 and 2.3.13.4 of the OIE *Code*).
3. The cattle meat (beef) products were derived from animals that passed veterinary ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection at the time of slaughter.
4. The premises in which the products were processed operates in accordance with official regulations and under the supervision of the Controlling Veterinary Authority of Vanuatu.
5. The products are sound and fit for human consumption.

Name and Signature of Official Veterinarian:

Date:

Name and address of office:

N.B. Official stamp of the government veterinary authority of the exporting country must be applied to all pages of zoosanitary certification.

Ref: AI-VU010

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