

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF COOKED FISH FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM ALL COUNTRIES

Issued pursuant to Section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated 11 May 2004

22 April 2014

The following information relates to Chief Technical Officer Direction: CTO 2014 042[G]

Clauses 7.1 to 7.4 of this import health standard are replaced by the following:

Clause 7: ELIGIBILITY

- A. Private consignments of fish for human consumption may be imported from any country without documentation provided all of the following requirements are met:
- 1) The product comprises non-salmonid fish.
 - 2) The product is shelf-stable.
 - 3) The product is commercially packaged for direct retail sale.
 - 4) The product is in its original sealed packaging on arrival.
 - 5) The consignment does not exceed 10 kg per passenger.

GUIDANCE

From a biosecurity risk perspective, dried, salted, smoked, cured, marinated, pastes, pickled and other preserved fish brought through as private consignments are equivalent to cooked fish.

- B. Commercial consignments of fish for human consumption may be imported from any country provided they are accompanied by:
- 1) A manufacturer's declaration stating that the product has been subjected to a retort process of Fo3 or greater;
- or**
- 2) A zoosanitary certification as per Part D of the import health standard.

The following note in the import health standard is deleted:

Note: For hermetically sealed shelf stable products, i.e. products not required to be kept under refrigeration, refer to the import health standard for specified products for human consumption containing dairy products, eggs or meat - EDIPROIC.ALL.

GUIDANCE

The deletion of the above paragraph means that commercial consignments of fish must be assessed and considered for clearance under Clause 7(B) of this CTO Direction (2014 042[G]) and not under the EDIPROIC.ALL standard.

USER GUIDE

The information in MAF animal and animal product import health standards 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 and, if necessary, in a transitional facility in New Zealand 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. When MAF has accepted health certification produced by a government authority in the exporting country as meeting the requirements of the model health certification this is noted. When no health certification is required to accompany consignments Part D. will note “none required”.

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 cooked fish for human consumption from all countries.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of cooked fish imported into New Zealand from all countries 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 of MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of cooked fish 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 direction and/or biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.
- 2.3 In order to facilitate clearance at the border, documentation to enable an Inspector to determine that the consignment complies with eligibility conditions should accompany the consignment, such as a signed manufacturer's declaration.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Biosecurity clearance

as defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993

Commercially packaged

A product that has been packed for retail sale and has a label attached that states the product name, ingredients, manufacturer's name and address, and country of origin of the product

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 the DAB 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

Hermetically sealed

impervious and sealed at the point of manufacture and not able to be opened and resealed since that time e.g. cans, screw top containers with tamper proof seals, sealed foil containers, heat sealed vacuum packed plastic containers

Inspector

as defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993

MAF

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Official Veterinarian

An official veterinarian means 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

Shelf-stable

not requiring refrigeration or freezing

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 Importations of cooked fish into New Zealand from all countries 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 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

- 6.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.
- 6.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).
- 6.3 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.

7 ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1 The product must comprise only cooked fish.
- 7.2 The product must have been heat treated at a minimum core temperature of 85°C for at least 15 minutes, and accompanied by certification (see Section 9).
- 7.3 The product must be commercially packaged for direct retail sale in hermetically sealed containers.
- 7.4 All requirements of this import health standard, including those detailed in the Model Zoosanitary Certificate must be met for the commodity to be eligible for importation.

~~(Note: For hermetically sealed shelf stable products, i.e. products not required to be kept under refrigeration, refer to the import health standard for specified products for human consumption containing dairy products, eggs or meat – EDIPROIC.ALL)~~

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 The product must comply with the requirements of the Food (Safety) Regulations 2002 of New Zealand, administered by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority and each consignment may be subject to inspection by an inspector appointed under these regulations.
- 8.3 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.

PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

9 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION

The following documents are approved by MAF as being equivalent to the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION, and are approved as model export certificates to accompany imports of cooked fish into New Zealand when appropriately completed by a representative of the exporting country's government veterinary authorities:

10 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

COMMODITY: Cooked fish from all countries

CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:

Agency:

Department:

Country:

I. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT

(i). Name/s and address/es of processing premises:

(ii). Processing premises registration number:

II. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

(i). The commodity contained in this consignment is (describe form and packaging):

(ii). Amount (in kgs) of the consignment:

III. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

(i). Name and address of New Zealand importer:

IV. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I,, being the Official Veterinarian authorised by the Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country, certify, after due enquiry and on the basis of evidence provided by the Manufacturer that:

All fish contained in this product has been heat treated at a minimum core temperature of 85°C for at least 15 minutes.

Signature of *Official Veterinarian*:

Date:

Name and Address of Office:

Note: Official stamp of the Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country must be applied to all pages of the Zoosanitary Certification

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