



Import Health Standard

Zoo Asian Elephants from Sri Lanka
and Australia

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19 June 2013

Issuing Authority

This standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated at Wellington this 19th day of June 2013

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For the Director General
Ministry for Primary Industries
(under delegated authority)

Contents

Contents	3
Import Health Standard for Zoo Asian Elephants from Sri Lanka and Australia	
PART A. INTRODUCTION	5
Background	5
Scope	5
Importer's responsibilities	5
Definitions	5
PART B. REQUIREMENTS	7
Eligibility	7
Permit to import	7
Documentation accompanying the consignment	8
Transport	8
Biosecurity authority	9
Transitional facility	9
Equivalence	10
PART C: VETERINARY CERTIFICATION	11
Veterinary Certificate 1: Elephants from Sri Lanka	11
Treatments and testing in Sri Lanka	11
Pre-export isolation in a foot and mouth disease-free country	14
Treatments and testing in pre-export isolation in a foot and mouth disease-free country	15
Inspection and transport	15
Veterinary Certificate 2: Elephants from Australia	17
Pre-export isolation	17
Treatments and testing	18
Inspection and transport	18

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Import Health Standard for Zoo Asian Elephants from Sri Lanka and Australia

PART A. INTRODUCTION

Background

1. This document, issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993, is the Import Health Standard for Zoo Asian Elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from Sri Lanka and Australia.
2. If this standard needs to be amended or revoked urgently, or the Director General or delegate considers that an amendment is minor, the amendment or revocation may be carried out without prior consultation.

Scope

3. This standard specifies the requirements that must be met to import Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from Sri Lanka and Australia into New Zealand.

Importer's responsibilities

4. It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that the consignment is accompanied by a permit to export as required by the legislation of the country of origin and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) <http://www.cites.org>. The importer is advised to clarify the status of the species of animal in relation to international agreements on their trade, prior to export. Material arriving in New Zealand without the relevant CITES permits may be subject to seizure by the New Zealand Department of Conservation.

[Note: Any requirement for CITES or other conservation-related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer and is independent of this certification.]

5. The importer must notify the date, expected time, port of arrival and the flight number or ship's name to the New Zealand Official Veterinarian at the airport/port of entry at least 7 days in advance of importation. Email: liveanimalsector@mpi.govt.nz

Definitions

Import Health Standard Term	Definition
Biosecurity authority	Written authority from an inspector, given under Section 29 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, to move restricted organisms from a transitional facility, biosecurity control area or containment facility to another transitional facility, biosecurity control area or containment facility or to export those goods from New Zealand
Competent Authority	The Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the OIE Code in the whole territory
Director-General	The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries
Equivalence	Acceptance by the Chief Technical Officer 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
IATA	The International Air Transport Association
Inspector	A person who is appointed an inspector under Section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. (Explanatory Note: An inspector is appointed to administer and enforce the provisions of the Biosecurity Act, and in respect of new organisms, the provisions of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996)
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries
Official Veterinarian	A veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the provisions of the OIE Code Chapter for certification procedures
OIE	The World Organisation for Animal Health
(OIE) Terrestrial Code	The World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code. Any reference in this standard to the OIE Code is to the most current as found on the OIE website: http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/
Zoo (for the purposes of the definition zoo animal)	A containment facility approved to the containment standard where live zoo animals are kept for the purposes of public exhibition, conservation, research or education. Note: A zoo includes for example, a circus, butterfly house, aquarium or an oceanarium. A

	zoo may also hold indigenous animals that are not new organisms but these animals are not covered by this Standard.
Zoo animal	A new organism approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996 (HSNO) to be held in a zoo. The organism is both a new organism under the HSNO Act and a restricted organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

PART B. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility

6. The elephants must have been born and resident for their entire lives in a government registered, or licensed, zoo or wildlife park.
7. The elephants must not be in the last trimester of pregnancy on the date of export.
8. The elephants must be more than 6 months old at departure and weaned, healthy and fit to travel.
9. The elephants and the premises in which the elephants reside must have been free of quarantine restrictions for at least the 90 days prior to the date of export.

Permit to import

10. A permit to import is required for the importation of all elephants into New Zealand.
11. An application form for a permit to import can be obtained from the MPI website: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/forms/imports-live-animals-into-trans-facility>

Or by contacting:

Animal Imports
Animal and Animal Products Directorate
Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526
Wellington
New Zealand
email: animalimports@mpi.govt.nz

12. The importer must supply the following information:
 - name and address of exporter;
 - number, sex, age, species and microchip transponder identification of the animal;
 - date of the proposed importation;

- name and address of the transitional facility in New Zealand to which the consignment is to proceed following importation;
 - a letter from the New Zealand Official Veterinarian supervising the transitional facility indicating that the facility is available for this consignment;
 - port of arrival, and route and means of transport to the transitional facility.
13. The permit to import will be issued for a single consignment.

Documentation accompanying the consignment

14. The consignment must be accompanied by:
- a copy of the permit to import; AND
 - appropriately completed health certification that meets the requirement of Part C Veterinary Certification.
15. Documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard must be original (unless otherwise specified), in English, and clearly legible. Inadequate documentation may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity authority, or rejection of the consignment.
16. The Official Veterinarian of the exporting country must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate and any documents that form part of the extended certificate.
17. All documentation 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

Transport

18. In the case of transport by:
- Air: the transport facilities and arrangements must meet the relevant requirements published in the IATA Live Animal Regulations.
 - Sea: the transport facilities and arrangements must have been inspected and meet the requirements of the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6 (which is equivalent to the New Zealand Marine Rules Part 24C).
19. No animals other than those qualified for entry into New Zealand are permitted to be transported with the elephants on the aircraft or ship.
20. All feed and bedding during transportation must be free from weed seeds.
21. Trans-shipment in any third country may only occur if pre-approved by MPI.

Incorporation of material by reference

22. The following international standards are incorporated by reference in this import health standard under section 142M of the Biosecurity Act:
- The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations (LAR): a copy is available for reading free of charge at MPI, Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, Wellington.
 - The Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6 (equivalent to the New Zealand Marine Rules Part 24C) is available free of charge: <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2006L03643>
 - The World Organisation for Animal Health Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals is available on the OIE website free of charge: <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>
 - The World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code is available on the OIE website free of charge: <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/>
23. Under section 142O (3) of the Biosecurity Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply, that is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Biosecurity Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces the above listed standards has legal effect as part of these documents.

General information

24. Containers made of timber must meet the requirements of the wood packaging import health standard: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/imports/forests/standards/non-viable-forest-produce/wood-packaging-ihs.htm>
25. Any unused feed, bedding and faecal material that falls from the crate must be destroyed by an MPI-approved method.

Biosecurity authority

26. On the elephants' arrival in New Zealand, an Official Veterinarian who is an Inspector may give a biosecurity authorisation under section 29 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 authorising the animals to move to the transitional facility named in the permit to import, providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under Part C Veterinary Certification and requirements in Part B of this import health standard.

Transitional facility

27. Following biosecurity authorisation being given, the animals must proceed directly to the transitional facility.

28. The animals must remain in the transitional facility for no less than 7 days, or for a longer period as specified in the biosecurity authorisation under section 29 of the Biosecurity Act.
29. On arrival in the transitional facility, the animals must be subjected to such testing, treatments or procedures as is required by the supervising Official Veterinarian to diagnose a disease, ascertain the presence or absence of any pest or unwanted organism or make an assessment of measures taken to eradicate any pest or unwanted organism, including:
 - verification of the microchip identification of the animals; AND
 - inspection under the supervision of the supervising Official Veterinarian for ticks. Any ticks found shall be identified and their presence reported to the Chief Technical Officer (CTO) or delegate.
30. On satisfactory completion of the post arrival quarantine period, the supervising Official Veterinarian who is an Inspector will, under section 29 of the Biosecurity Act, authorise the animals to be moved from the transitional facility to a containment facility, approved to MPI Standard 154.03.04 *Containment Facilities for Zoo Animals* (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/animals/154-03-04.htm>.) providing the consignment meets all requirements in Part C of this import health standard.
31. The crates must be cleaned and disinfected and stored until the end of quarantine. After completion of quarantine all feed, bedding material and faeces from the transitional facility and crate must be destroyed by a MPI-approved method.
32. The animals and their offspring must remain permanently in a containment facility and may only be transferred to another containment facility with the prior biosecurity authority given under section 29 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Equivalence

33. The import health standard has been agreed as suitable for trade between New Zealand and the exporting countries. It is expected that the consignment will meet the requirements of this import health standard in every respect.
34. The requirements for elephants are met if, in the opinion of the Director-General, the measures taken for managing the risks associated with the importation are equally effective at managing those risks as the requirements specified in this standard. If an equivalence measure(s) is approved MPI will issue a permit to import (under Section 24 (D)(2) of the Biosecurity Act).

PART C: VETERINARY CERTIFICATION

Veterinary Certificate 1: Elephants from Sri Lanka

1. Species: *Elephas maximas*

To: NEW ZEALAND

Permit to import number:

Exporting country of origin: Sri Lanka

Competent Authority of exporting country:

Exporting country of pre-export isolation:

Competent Authority of country of pre-export isolation:

2. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Microchip number:

Site of microchip:

Other identification (eg ARKS number):

Sex:

Date of birth:

Total number of animals:

3. ORIGIN OF THE ANIMALS

Name and address of exporter in Sri Lanka:

Port of embarkation in Sri Lanka:

Name and address of exporter in country of pre-export isolation:

Port of embarkation in country of pre-export isolation:

Treatments and testing in Sri Lanka

I, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of Sri Lanka, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the elephants identified in this veterinary certificate, that:

4. The elephants have been resident in a government registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park since birth.
5. The premises in the country of origin in which the animals for export have been resident are under permanent veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring

programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.

6. Foot and mouth disease (FMD)

6.1 The elephants have never received vaccination against FMD; AND

6.2 A blood sample was taken and tested negative to FMD antibodies; AND

6.3 Following blood collection, the elephants were held in isolation from animals not of an equivalent health status prior to transport to pre-export isolation in an FMD-free country.

Date of blood collection:

FMD test and results:

7. Rabies

7.1 The elephants were kept since birth or for the last 6 months in an establishment where no case of rabies has occurred in the last 12 months; AND

7.2.1 The elephants were separated from all other animals susceptible to rabies; OR

7.2.2.1 The elephants were vaccinated against rabies 6-12 months prior to exportation to New Zealand, when the elephants were at least 3 months old; AND

7.2.2.2 A blood sample from each elephant, taken between 3 and 24 months prior to export to New Zealand, had a rabies antibody titre of at least 0.5 IU/ml.

Date and type of vaccination:

Date of blood collection:

Results of rabies titre:

8. External parasites

8.1 The elephants were held in quarantine from other animals not of equivalent health status for the 30 days prior to departure for pre-export isolation in a country free from FMD. Before the elephants' arrival, the quarantine area was thoroughly cleaned and sprayed with an insecticide/acaricide. Feed and bedding used during the quarantine period was tick and weed seed-free, and bedding was removed and replaced every 10 days; AND

8.2 In the 48 hours prior to entering quarantine, the elephants were sprayed to cover all the body surfaces with an efficacious ectoparasiticide.

Ectoparasiticide used:

Date of treatment:

9. The vehicles in which the animals will be transported to the port of departure will be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using a disinfectant approved by MPI.
10. During transport to the port of departure the animals will be kept isolated from animals that are not of equivalent health status.
11. During transport to the port of departure and during transit to third country pre-export isolation (PEI), all feed provided will be free from evidence of contamination with ticks and weeds/weed seeds.
12. If shipped by air, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations; and if shipped by sea, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6.
13. The crates or pens to be used for transporting the animals to New Zealand are either new or if previously used will be cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant.
14. All laboratory tests were previously approved by MPI, were conducted at a laboratory approved by MPI, and all results accompany this certification.

Name and Signature of Official Veterinarian of country of origin:

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Official stamp and date:

Name and address of office:

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Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages of the veterinary certificate that relate to that official authority

Pre-export isolation in a foot and mouth disease-free country

I, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the authority of (FMD-free country where the elephant/s underwent pre-export isolation), certify after due enquiry, with respect to the elephants identified in this veterinary certificate, that:

15. For at least 90 days prior to the scheduled date of export to New Zealand, and from the date of blood collection resulting in a negative FMD titre, the elephants were kept in pre-export isolation in an FMD-free country.
16. The pre-export isolation (PEI) premises and management plan met the requirements of this import standard and were pre-approved by MPI.
17. The premises were supervised and routinely inspected by an Official Veterinarian, and records of inspections and management were available for audit purposes.
18. The premises were surrounded by a livestock-proof perimeter fence and the animals for export were separated from other animals not of equivalent health status by a minimum distance of 10 meters, or a solid barrier.
19. Premises were new, or prior to housing the elephants were thoroughly cleaned with a high pressure hose followed by steam cleaning and spraying with an acaricide.
20. All equipment used in feeding, handling and treatment of the animals was new, or cleaned and disinfected prior to the entry of the animals, and was used only in the premises for the duration of the PEI.
21. Walls are optional, but if present were smooth and impervious and constructed of permanent materials that was effectively cleaned and sprayed with insecticide/acaricide.
22. The animals were held on a 'hard standing area' that was free of grass or other pasture. The standing area was concrete or a compacted dry earth surface or slat flooring. The area was either surrounded by a fence or a solid barrier, which can include a building or part of a building.
23. Feed and bedding was tick-free. Feed and bedding was free of evidence of weeds/weed seeds; examples of feed include processed pellets or high quality hay.
24. Bedding was removed every 10 days and the premises thoroughly cleaned and sprayed with an acaricide.
25. Individual health records were kept for animals on the premises during the PEI period and were available to the Official Veterinarian. Any health problems were reported to MPI for a ruling on their management.
26. To avoid the introduction of ticks and weeds/weed seeds, all personnel attending the animals wore outer clothing and footwear used exclusively in the premises during PEI.

27. Entry of visitors to the premises was prevented unless specifically authorised by the Official Veterinarian. The names and addresses, and date of entry were recorded for all visitors.
28. Animals in the premises were isolated from animals not of a tested equivalent health status throughout PEI.

Treatments and testing in pre-export isolation in a foot and mouth disease-free country

29. Foot and mouth disease (FMD)

(A) blood sample/s taken from each elephant tested negative for FMD using an MPI-approved testing regime.

Date of blood collection:
 FMD test results:

30. Surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*)

A blood sample taken from each elephant was examined and found free from *T.evansi*, and tested negative for *T.evansi*, using OIE-recommended methods.

Date of blood collection:
 Surra test results:

31. Internal parasites

In the 72 hours after arrival at PEI, and repeated in the 3 days prior to export to New Zealand, each elephant was treated with an endoparasiticide/s efficacious against nematodes, cestodes, trematodes and bot-fly larvae.

Endoparasiticide/s used:
 Dose rate:
 Date of treatment 1:
 Date of treatment 2:

32. External parasites

In the 72 hours after arrival in PEI, and repeated in the 3 days prior to export to New Zealand, the elephants were sprayed to cover all the body surfaces with an efficacious ectoparasiticide.

Endoparasiticide/s used:
 Date of treatment 1:
 Date of treatment 2:

Inspection and transport

33. Each elephant was examined by an Official Veterinarian in the 24 hours prior to leaving the PEI premises for the port of export, and was free from clinical evidence of infectious or contagious disease, external parasites, plant and seed contamination, and appeared to be fit to travel.

34. The vehicles in which the animals will be transported to the port of departure will be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using a disinfectant approved by MPI.
35. During transport to the port of departure the animals will be kept isolated from animals that are not of equivalent health status.
36. During transport to the port of departure and during transit to New Zealand, all feed provided will be free from evidence of contamination with ticks and weeds/weed seeds.
37. If shipped by air, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations; and if shipped by sea, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6.
38. The crates or pens to be used for transporting the animals to New Zealand are either new or if previously used will be cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant.
39. No other animals are being transported in the aircraft or ship except animals officially certified as able to be imported to New Zealand.
40. For animals transported by air, the cargo space of the aircraft where the animals are to be transported will be sprayed with an approved insecticidal spray prior to departure.
41. All laboratory tests were previously approved by MPI, were conducted at a laboratory approved by MPI, and all results accompany this certification.

Name and signature of Official Veterinarian of FMD-free country of pre-export isolation:

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Official stamp and date:

Name and address of office:

.....

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Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages of the veterinary certificate that relate to that official authority

Veterinary Certificate 2: Elephants from Australia

1. Species: *Elephas maximus*

To: NEW ZEALAND

Permit to import number:

Exporting Country: Australia

Competent Authority of exporting country:

2. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Microchip number:

Site of microchip:

Other identification (eg ARKS number):

Sex:

Date of birth:

Total number of animals:

3. ORIGIN OF THE ANIMALS

Name and address of exporter in Australia:

Place of origin of animals:

Port of embarkation in country of origin:

I, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of Australia, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the elephants identified in this veterinary certificate, that:

4. The elephants have been resident in a government registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park since birth.
5. The premises in the country of origin in which the animals for export have been resident are under permanent veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.

Pre-export isolation

6. The animals were held in pre-export isolation (PEI):
 - for a minimum period of 30 days prior to export; AND
 - in premises that were approved and supervised by an Official Veterinarian; AND

- isolated from other animals not of equivalent health status; AND
 - the animals and all in-contact animals were free from clinical signs of infectious disease.
7. The PEI premises had an impervious washable floor and walls. Prior to housing the animals, the premises were thoroughly cleaned and sprayed with an acaricide. Bedding and feed used were clean and free from evidence of contamination with ticks and weeds/weed seeds. Bedding was removed every 10 days and the premises thoroughly cleaned and sprayed with acaricide.

Treatments and testing

8. Internal parasites

In the 72 hours after arrival in PEI, and repeated in the 3 days prior to export to New Zealand, each elephant was treated with an endoparasiticide/s efficacious against nematodes, cestodes, trematodes and bot-fly larvae.

Endoparasiticide/s used:
 Dose rate:
 Date of treatment 1:
 Date of treatment 2:

9. External parasites

In the 72 hours prior to entering PEI, and repeated in the 3 days prior to export to New Zealand, the elephants were sprayed to cover all the body surfaces with an efficacious ectoparasiticide.

Endoparasiticide/s used:
 Date of treatment 1:
 Date of treatment 2:

Inspection and transport

10. Each elephant was examined by an Official Veterinarian in the 24 hours prior to leaving the PEI premises for the port of export, and was free from clinical evidence of infectious or contagious disease, external parasites, plant and seed contamination, and appeared to be fit to travel.
11. The vehicles in which the animals will be transported to the port of departure were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading using a disinfectant approved by MPI.
12. During transport to the port of departure the animals will be kept isolated from animals that are not of equivalent health status.

13. During transport to the port of departure and during transit to New Zealand, all feed provided will be free from evidence of contamination with ticks and weeds/weed seeds.
14. If shipped by air, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations; if shipped by sea, the animals will be shipped in accordance with the Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6.
15. The crates or pens to be used for transporting the animals to New Zealand are either new or if previously used will be cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant.
16. No other animals are being transported in the aircraft or ship except animals officially certified as able to be imported to New Zealand.
17. All laboratory tests were previously approved by MPI, were conducted at a laboratory approved by MPI, and all results accompany this certification.

Name and signature of Official Veterinarian of Australia:

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Official stamp and date:

Name and address of office:

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Note: Official stamp must be applied to all pages of the veterinary certificate