



# Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser including Guano Fertiliser

Short Name: INORGFERT.ALL

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## **TITLE**

Import Health Standard: Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser including Guano Fertiliser – Import Health Standard

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Import Health Standard comes into force on date of signing.

## **REVOCATION**

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following Import Health Standards:

- a) Import Health Standard for Bulk Inorganic Fertiliser (including Guano Fertiliser), issued 8 May 2017 by the Ministry of Primary Industries.

## **ISSUING AUTHORITY**

This Import Health Standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington this day 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Director, Plants and Pathways  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Import Health Standard (IHS), but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

This IHS specifies the requirements that must be met for the effective management of biosecurity risks associated with the importation of all bulk inorganic fertiliser consignments (including guano).

## Background

The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) prescribes requirements for the exclusion, eradication and effective management of pests and unwanted organisms in New Zealand. These organisms have the potential to cause harm to natural and physical resources and human health in New Zealand. MPI is responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

The fertiliser pathway is one where biosecurity contaminants (such as regulated grains or weed seeds) could be introduced directly into New Zealand through the association with high fertility material.

## Who should read this?

This Import Health Standard applies to importers (individual persons or organisations) of bulk inorganic fertilisers (including guano) into New Zealand.

## Why is this important?

A biosecurity clearance, pursuant to section 26 of the Act, will be actioned or issued when fertiliser (including guano) meets all of the requirements of this IHS. Fertiliser consignments that do not meet requirements of this IHS may be re-shipped, destroyed or treated by a method approved by a MPI Chief Technical Officer prior to release (if applicable). Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

## Equivalence

Requirements for the importation of fertiliser will be met in full if a Chief Technical Officer acting under delegated authority considers that an importing company has implemented equivalent measures in a system for managing associated risk that are as effective as the IHS requirements (as specified in Part 1 of this document). If an equivalence system is thus approved, MPI will provide signoff of the system under delegated authority.

## Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
1 May 2017	All	New format and branding
8 October 2018	Introduction, 1.4, 1.5(2), 1.6.1(2), 1.7.3	Clarification of ambiguities, formatting

## Part 1: Requirements

### 1.1 Application

This IHS applies to the importation of bulk inorganic fertiliser (including guano) into New Zealand.

Fertiliser types include:

- a) Direct application fertiliser (DAF)
- b) Guano (for direct application)
- c) Fertiliser for further processing (including fertiliser ingredients)

Note: This IHS does not cover importation of liquid fertiliser or bagged and containerised inorganic fertilisers (these products have been determined to have a lower risk status). In addition, this IHS does not apply to organic fertilisers that primarily consist of animal, microbial or plant material.

Guidance for this Import Health Standard is provided in [Guidance Document for the IHS for Bulk Fertiliser including Guano](#).

### 1.2 Definitions

For a list of definitions please see schedule 1 of this HIS.

### 1.3 Required certification for information

Certification or information required under this IHS for all fertiliser consignments arriving in New Zealand must be received by MPI at least 72 hours prior to arrival.

### 1.4 Outcomes

Fertiliser imported into New Zealand must be substantially free of the biosecurity risk material specified in Table 1, or it must be directly managed by other approved methods.

### 1.5 Permitted levels of biosecurity risk material

- (1) Contamination of fertiliser for direct application (DAF or guano) may occur during production or during loading into contaminated vessels in the country of origin. DAF and guano must not contain regulated biosecurity risk material that exceeds levels specified as follows:

**Table 1: Permitted levels of biosecurity risk material**

Biosecurity Risk Material	Permitted Level per 5kg Hold Sample
Arthropods & Molluscs (live)	Nil
Animal material or by-products	Nil
Plant material – dead/desiccated	1 piece (not exceeding 5cm <sup>2</sup> )
Plant material - fresh/green & regulated grains/seeds	Nil
Soil (clods, lumps etc.)	5 grams

**Guidance**

- Fertiliser for further processing **may** contain levels of contaminants exceeding those listed above as this material may only be imported under a management system approved by MPI. This excludes live organisms

## 1.6 Requirements for DAF

- (1) This section specifies sampling, analysis and vessel requirements for DAF that must be conducted before shipping to New Zealand.

Note: This section excludes guano consignments.

### 1.6.1 DAF pre-shipment requirements

- (1) DAF must be sampled to form a 5 kg composite sample from each vessel hold containing fertiliser. DAF must be sampled and analysed in accordance with ISO sampling requirements prior to shipment to New Zealand (unless another on-arrival arrangement for sampling is permitted by MPI as part of an MPI-approved system). This is to determine the constituent make up and presence or absence of biosecurity risk.
- (2) The sampling referred to in 1.6 (1) must be conducted by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an independent third party organisation (ITPO) where this is applicable. Samples must be analysed at an independent third party laboratory in any country.
- (3) Where laboratory samples are sent to an independent laboratory in New Zealand for analysis, provision of samples must be conducted as follows:
  - a) Sample(s) can only be sent to New Zealand third party laboratories approved by MPI as a Transitional Facility (TF). (MPI will hold a register of these facilities).
  - b) The sample(s) must be securely packaged to ensure spillage cannot easily occur.
  - c) The package(s) must be clearly identified as official (bulk inorganic fertiliser) sample(s) with a copy of the Fertiliser Sampling Certificate attached externally for scrutiny by MPI and also a copy contained inside the package(s). Once reconciliation of the documents provided occurs, samples may be sent to an approved third party laboratory. Where samples are determined to be compliant after analysis, they may be returned to the importer for use or disposed of.
- (4) Any vessel hold used to transport DAF to New Zealand must be inspected and certified by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO (where this is applicable) to ensure freedom from contamination from previous cargoes and verifying the cleanliness of the hold (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts).

### 1.6.2 Required DAF certification

- (1) DAF (excluding guano fertiliser) must be accompanied by the following certificates:
  - a) **Fertiliser sampling certificate**  
This certificate must:
    - i) specify the sampling techniques used to draw samples for analysis; and
    - ii) specify the agency conducting the sampling;
    - iii) be issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin or place of loading.
  - b) **Fertiliser analysis certificate**  
This certificate must:
    - i) accurately state the chemical constituent make-up of the fertiliser including the identification, presence, and quantity of all contaminants detected; and
    - ii) specify the agency conducting the analysis; and

- iii) be issued by an appropriate third party laboratory and issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin/place of loading.
- c) **Vessel cleanliness certificate**  
This certificate must:
  - i) specify that fertiliser (intended for direct application such as DAF/guano) is free from contamination (biosecurity risk material) from previous cargoes and attest to the cleanliness of the vessel (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts of the hold); and
  - ii) be issued or endorsed by the national regulatory authority, regional or state government or an ITPO in the port of origin/place of loading.

## 1.7 Requirements for guano

- (1) This section specifies sampling, analysis and vessel requirements for guano consignments that must be conducted before shipping to New Zealand.

### 1.7.1 Pre-shipment requirements for guano

- (1) Guano (intended for direct application) must be heat treated (in the country of origin) at a minimum temperature of 100°C for at least 1 minute.
- (2) Any vessel hold used to transport guano to New Zealand must be inspected and certified by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO where this is applicable to ensure freedom from cross contamination from previous cargoes after heat treatment and to verify the cleanliness of the hold (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts).

### 1.7.2 Required guano certification

- (1) Guano must be accompanied by the following certificates:
  - a) **Treatment certificate**  
This certificate must:
    - i) state “During processing, the [product description] has been heat treated at a minimum temperature of 100°C for at least 1 minute”; and
    - ii) be issued by the manufacturer or treatment provider.
  - b) **Vessel cleanliness certificate**  
This certificate must:
    - i) specify that guano (intended for use as DAF) is free from contamination (biosecurity risk material) from previous cargoes and attest to the cleanliness of the vessel (including ledges, hold covers and all associated structural parts of the hold); and
    - ii) be issued or endorsed by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or by an ITPO in the port of origin or place of loading.

## 1.8 Systems for fertilisers for further processing

- (1) Fertiliser for further processing must be imported under a MPI-approved system. A documented system must:
  - a) specify the exact details of consignments, management of pre-entry activities through arrival in New Zealand, border clearance, and transportation to the TF where the material will be stored and how it will be further processed; and

- b) outline the critical control points, preventative management systems, measures and processes used by the importer to mitigate and/or manage any biosecurity risks that maybe associated with their products.
- (2) Importers must submit their system to MPI for assessment and approval prior to importation of fertiliser for further processing (see Contact details, Page 1 of this IHS).

Note: This IHS does not permit the process of simply mixing such fertiliser or ingredients (re-blending) after importation with other products to form a direct application fertiliser without further treatment, MPI inspection or as part of a MPI-approved documented system.

## Schedule 1: Definitions

In this IHS the following definitions apply (other terms may also be found in the Act):

**Biosecurity risk material** means any material that constitutes a biosecurity risk, including but not limited to:

- a) animal bones, carcasses, excrement, feathers, skins, and any related material;
- b) grain or seeds;
- c) other plant material or plant products (including fresh or dried material such as bark, fruit, leaves, twigs);
- d) regulated animal or plant pests or hitch-hiker organisms;
- e) soil (clumps or loose); and
- f) wood and wood products (including bark).

**Bulk inorganic fertiliser** means un-bagged and non-containerised consignments of fertiliser or ingredients of fertiliser transported as loose consignments in vessel holds.

**Contamination** means the unwanted presence of regulated contaminants (including regulated organisms) that may pose a biosecurity risk to New Zealand found in a commodity, container, conveyance or storage place or in any material.

**Consignment** means unaccompanied goods being moved from one country to another and covered by an airway bill/bill of lading or consignment note.

**Direct application fertiliser (DAF)** means fertiliser that is ready for immediate use or those products where the usual manufacturing process in New Zealand would not destroy, or render non-viable any biosecurity risk material.

**Fertiliser** means a substance manufactured, intended for further manufacture, represented, supplied, or used as a means of directly or indirectly:

- a) supplying nutrients to the soil; or
- b) conditioning the soil by altering the biological, chemical, or physical composition of the soil.

**Fertiliser analysis certificate** means a certificate that is issued by an appropriate independent laboratory in the country of loading (or in New Zealand) that:

- a) states that analysis has been conducted in accordance with appropriate guidelines;
- b) states the chemical composition of the fertiliser;
- c) identifies and quantifies any contaminants detected; and
- d) specifies the laboratory or agency that conducted the analysis.

**Fertiliser for further processing** means fertiliser (including ingredients of inorganic fertiliser) that will be processed in New Zealand to ensure that any contaminants will be destroyed or devitalised (for example, hot mix – sulphuric acid process).

**Fertiliser sampling certificate** means a certificate issued by a national regulatory authority, regional or state government or ITPO in the country of loading that:

- a) states that the sampling has been conducted in accordance with ISO Standards 8633, 8634 and ISO Technical Report 7553;
- b) specifies the sampling techniques used to obtain samples for analysis; and
- c) specifies the laboratory/agency that conducted the sampling.

**Guano fertiliser** means inorganic fertiliser made from guano, which is the mineralised product derived from fossilised bat or bird droppings.

**Independent third party laboratory** means a laboratory that has been recognised by a laboratory accrediting organisation (national or international) to test and evaluate products to an international standard or product safety standard; and is free from commercial, financial, and other pressures that may influence the results of the testing and evaluation process.

**Inorganic fertiliser** means a chemical product, of either inorganic mineral or synthetic origin, that provides nutrients to stimulate plant growth.

**ISO** means the International Organisation for Standardisation which is the worldwide federation of national standards bodies.

**ISO sampling** means sampling in accordance with ISO Standards: 8633, 8634, and ISO Technical Report 7553 or any standards or technical reports that replace them.