



**Ref: CTO 2018 028 [G]**

Equine Semen: Residency at Semen Collection Centre

### **CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to frozen equine semen**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Lucy Johnston, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for frozen equine semen in relation to the *Import Health Standard: Semen and Embryos from Horses (HORSSEMB.SPE)*:

The IHS HORSSEMB.SPE states that semen donors must be resident for at least 28 consecutive days at the semen collection centre prior to collection of the semen for export. During this time semen donors must not be used for natural mating and must be isolated from animals not of equivalent health status.

Semen could be collected, processed, and frozen from the date of entry of the donor into the semen collection centre. Frozen semen can be held for the 28 residency period while donors undergo the required tests or treatments for the identified risk organisms listed in the IHS. If test results show donors are negative for the identified risk organisms, any semen collected during the residency period could then be exported at the conclusion of the 28 day period as long as donors have remained clinically healthy during that time. Post-collection testing of clinically healthy donors that have been isolated from other animals not of equivalent health status and holding frozen semen for the 28 day period prior to export effectively manages the risks identified in the IHS.

The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risks associated with this commodity have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.