



# Requirements and guidance for the export of fruit fly host material

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## Introduction

During the fruit fly response additional measures are needed to protect and reassure New Zealand's trading partners. A range of phytosanitary measures are being implemented that ensure MPI certified export host material is free from economically significant fruit flies.

These requirements are subject to change at little or no notice.

MPI does not guarantee that compliance with these requirements will lead to acceptance of your consignment by the importing country.

## Purpose

This document defines the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and importing countries additional phytosanitary requirements for MPI certified export fruit fly host material.

## Background

MPI has implemented Export Restriction Zones (ERZs) around the detection site(s). An up to date map showing the ERZs is provided separately by MPI. An ERZ is subject to immediate change upon notification by the importing country. Please refer to the MPI website for the current ERZ(s):

<https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/fruit-flies/>

\*\* IVAs will be able to provide advice about what market these zones apply to, and the zone size.

An ERZ is a defined zone from which fruit fly host material cannot be harvested, packed or stored.

Individual countries may opt to require additional phytosanitary measures. Refer Importing Country's Phytosanitary Requirements (ICPR) for these individual country requirements.

The conditions in the Controlled Area Notice must also be complied with.

## Who should read this Plant Export Requirement?

This information is for use by MPI approved organisations (MAOs) and Independent Verification Agencies (IVAs).

## Scope

These requirements apply only to host material intended for export to countries that name the detected fruit fly(s) as a quarantine pest(s), and to any other host material that is packed or stored at the same facility. Up to date list of host material for the relevant fruit fly species is available at

<https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/dmsdocument/32983/send>.

These requirements apply only during a fruit fly response,

Additional measures for a specific importing country may continue for a period of time following the closure of the response.

These requirements are in addition to usual importing country requirements, and applicable requirements within MPI's Plant Export certification standards available here:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/exporting/plants/plant-products/requirements/>





## Definitions

Terms used in this document have the same meaning as they do in the [MPI Certification Standard: Assurance System Framework](#) or in [ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#).

The following additional terms are defined for the purposes of this document:

Term	Definition
<b>Host material</b>	Fruit or vegetables species which are considered by MPI to be a potential hosts of <i>Bactrocera tryoni</i> . Importing countries may specify additional hosts.
<b>MPI Export Restriction Zone (ERZ)</b>	An MPI prescribed area or zone in which restrictions on the export of host material may be necessary.
<b>Packing</b>	The activity of putting fruit fly host material into packaging at a location [MAO], or other operational site under the control of the IVA (e.g. from the point of receipt at the packhouse, until the material is packed in its final form for dispatch from the packhouse).
<b>Storage</b>	The holding of fruit fly host material at a location.

## Part 1: Requirements that apply to all exported host material



- 1) For a phytosanitary certificate to be issued, the following requirements must be met for **all** host material which will be exported to a country that names the detected fruit fly(s) as a quarantine pest:
  - a. The host material must be harvested and packed outside the relevant Export Restriction Zone (ERZ), as described in Table 1 'Summary of ERZ Restrictions' in Appendix 1.

## Part 2: Requirements for host material which does not transit an ERZ

### 2.1: Procedures, documentation and verification

- 1) Organisations involved in the export of host material that does not transit the ERZ must do one of the following:
  - a. Implement the Pre-approved Procedure 1 in Appendix 1.OR
  - b. Document procedures that describe how requirements for non-transit of the ERZ are met. These procedures are subject to the usual MPI process of approval prior to implementation.
- 2) Compliance with these ERZ non-transit requirements must be verified by an IVA or MPI Approved Organisation (MAO). An MAO can only verify compliance when this is within scope of their MAO approval.
- 3) Records demonstrating compliance must be maintained and made available to MPI or MPI's agents upon request.
- 4) Evidence of transport routes and documented procedures for non-transit are not required where the location of harvest, packing, inspection, containerisation (if applicable) and point of export are all verifiably located outside Auckland and Northland regions, or are all located within the Northland region.

### 2.2: Phytosanitary certification declaration

- 1) The certificate requestor must:
  - a. Declare under "Additional Information (Not Printed On Certificate) Observations"  
**"This host material has been harvested, packed and stored outside the Export Restriction Zone for [insert fruit fly species], and has not transited through an Export Restriction Zone requiring pest-proofing."**AND
  - b. Provide documented evidence that the host material has been harvested, packed and stored outside the ERZ.OR  
Hold documented evidence that the host material has been harvested, packed and stored outside the ERZ in a way that is readily available at audit by MPI or MPI's agents. This option is only available to MAOs with scope of approval that includes 3a "Managing supporting documentation for phytosanitary certificates".

## Part 3: Requirements for host material transiting an ERZ which requires pest-proofing

### 3.1: Procedures, documentation and verification

- 1) Host material that transits an ERZ which requires pest-proofing (as described in Table 1 in Appendix 1), must:



- a) Be pest-proofed during transit of the ERZ. MPI considers any enclosure with gap's no greater than 1.6mm on the longest axis to be pest proof.;
  - a. Pest proofing must comply with any pest proofing requirements of the importing country. The below examples do not comply with all importing countries requirements. See the intended importing country's ICPR for any country specific pest-proofing requirements.

AND

- b. Have intact security seals applied to the packages, pallets or containers
- 2) Pest proofing and sealing requirements apply at any stage of the export pathway, including material transiting before and after inspection.
- 3) Organisations involved in the export of host material that transits the ERZ must do one of the following:
  - a. Implement the Pre-approved Procedure 2 in Appendix 1OR
  - b. Document procedures that describe how requirements for transit of the applicable ERZ(s) are met. These procedures are subject to the usual MPI process of approval prior to implementation.
- 4) Compliance with these ERZ transit requirements must be verified by an IVA or MPI Approved Organisation (MAO).
- 5) Records demonstrating compliance must be maintained and made available to MPI or MPI's agents upon request.

**Guidance for part 3.1 (1):**

Examples of pest proofing that complies with MPI requirements:

- Closed packages with no ventilation gaps such as sealed modified atmosphere (MA) bags;
- Plastic bags/ polyliners with an overlap of at least 120mm to create a pest-proof seal inside outer packaging;
- Host material completely enclosed within pest-proof wrap or mesh with a maximum gap of 1.6mm;
- Sea containers with six solid sides, intact rubber door seals and pest proofed vents and drains;  
Fully enclosed conveyances free from gaps, including taut liner/ curtain-sided trucks in a good state of repair.

Examples of compliant security seals:

- Tamper-evident sealing labels;
- Tamper-evident sealing tape;
- Tamper-proof or tamper-evident container door seals.

The Controlled Area is managed separately to the ERZ. More information on transiting the controlled areas is available on the MPI website <https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/fruit-flies/>

### 3.2: Phytosanitary certification declaration

- 1) The certificate requestor must:
  - a. Provide documented evidence that the host material has been harvested, packed and stored outside the ERZ;

AND



- b. Provide documented evidence that the pest proofing requirements for transit have been complied;

AND

- c. Declare under “Additional Information (Not Printed On Certificate) Observations”

**“This host material has been harvested, packed and stored outside the Export Restriction Zone for *Bactrocera tryoni*. It has been pest-proofed as required when transiting the Export Restriction Zone *[insert the Export Restriction Zone which has been transited]*.”**



## Appendix 1.

Table 1. Summary of Export Restriction Zones

Export Restriction Zone		Part 1: Is harvesting and packing permitted in this zone?	Is storage permitted in this zone?	Is the host material transiting this zone?	
				Answer	Requirement
0	Outside all zones	Yes	Yes	Yes	Part 2 applies
1	Northcote (3.2 km, Q-fly)	No	No	No	Part 2 applies
				Yes	Part 3 applies

## MPI Pre-approved procedures for the export of fruit fly host material

Please note that these procedures:

1. are pre-approved by MPI for implementation by IVAs and MAOs in addition to their existing phytosanitary security procedures to verify compliance with MPI requirements for the protection of fruit fly host plant materials for export when transiting Export Restriction Zone(s) (ERZ);
2. are provided for immediate adoption by IVAs and MAOs
3. are subject to the usual audit requirements and any additional audits specified by MPI; and
4. if altered in any way will lose MPI pre-approved status and the altered procedures must be subjected to evaluation and approval by MPI prior to implementation. The process for approval of amendments is detailed in Part 3 of MPI Certification Standard: Organisation Requirements.

### Procedure 1: Verifying the transport route of plant material NOT transiting an ERZ

#### Scope:

Verification of the transport route taken.

#### Guidance:

This procedure is to confirm that host material destined for export has NOT transited an ERZ(s).

#### Responsibility:

Phytosanitary inspectors and verifiers of phytosanitary security.

#### Procedures:

- 2.1 Obtain from the transport operator (e.g. truck driver for each consignment) the transport route taken to deliver the host material.
- 2.2 Record the transport route and the status of the consignment's compliance with an appropriate transport route around an ERZ(s), the suppliers' and transport company's names, date, your name and signature.
- 2.3 If you decide the consignment's transport route is NOT satisfactory because it is, or could be, within the ERZ, immediately;
  - i) isolate and confine the consignment to a secure area and cover the consignment with a pest-proof mesh/cover;
  - ii) notify your IVA by telephone of your decision and security actions taken; and
  - iii) follow the instructions issued by your IVA.





2.4 If you decide the consignment's transport route is satisfactory because it is outside the ERZ; permit unloading of the consignment.

2.5 Ask the truck driver to sign your MAO verification record (i.e. confirming the route taken for delivery of the consignment to the MAO facility).

2.6 Maintain a file of these "verification records" in a secure location on site for future audit purposes. Records should include the date of arrival, supplier's name, transport company name and truck registration, route taken and driver's signature, your name and signature.

## **Procedure 2: Verifying phytosanitary security measures for host material transiting an Export Restriction Zones (ERZs)**

### **Scope:**

Verification of phytosanitary measures used to protect host material destined for export when the material is transported through an ERZ(s).

### **Guidance:**

This procedure is to confirm that host material destined for export that has transited an ERZ(s) meets MPI and importing country additional requirements.

### **Responsibility:**

Phytosanitary inspectors and verifiers of phytosanitary security.

### **Procedures:**

- 1.1 Before unloading each consignment confirm it has been transported in accordance with MPI requirements and that pest-proofing remains intact.
- 1.2 Record the date of arrival, supplier's name, transport company name, truck registration, method of pest-proofing, your name and signature.
- 1.3 If you decide the consignment has NOT been adequately pest-proofed, immediately:
  - i) reject the consignment;
  - ii) isolate and confine the rejected consignment to a secure area and cover the consignment with a pestproof mesh/cover;
  - iii) notify your Independent Verification Agency (IVA) by telephone of your decision and security actions taken; and iii) follow the instructions issued by your IVA.
- 1.4 Where you decide the pest-proofing meets MPI's requirements; permit unloading of the consignments.
- 1.5 Ensure each record captures your phytosanitary decision.
- 1.6 Maintain a file of these "verification records" in a secure location on-site for future audit purposes.