



08/036 Imported Animal Product Inspection Requirements

ANIMAL PRODUCTS ACT 1999

Priority: Normal

Distribution Security Level: (1)

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For Enquiries Contact: Greg Zemke-Smith, Senior Programme Manager, Export Standards

Under section 81 of the Animal Products Act 1999, I issue the following direction for the inspection of imported animal products required to be inspected by an Animal Product Officer in accordance with OMAR 01/172 - Import of Foreign Animal Material and Animal Products and Return To New Zealand of New Zealand Animal Material and Animal Products For Domestic Use or Export.

Dated at Wellington this 23rd day of December 2008.

(Signed)

Carol Barnao
Director Standards
New Zealand Food Safety Authority
(Acting under delegated authority)

Certified in order for signature

(Signed)

Solicitor
Legal Services
23 /12 /2008

Amendments to Clause 4 of OMAR 01/172

OMAR 01/172 - Import of Foreign Animal Material and Animal Products and Return to New Zealand of New Zealand Animal Material and Animal Products For Domestic Use or Export is hereby amended by adding the following clauses to clause 4 –

- 4.1.1 Ongoing imports of the same foreign animal products, from the same country and the same supplier in that country, by the same operator / importer are exempt from the requirement for physical inspection of all incoming consignments. This exemption is subject to the following conditions:
- 4.1.2 Physical inspection of consignments must be carried out at a frequency of one consignment every three months, or one in ten consignments, whichever is most frequent. Products imported less frequently than one consignment every three months do not qualify for reduced physical inspections.
- 4.1.3 A failed inspection is an inspection where the consignment is deemed by the Animal Products Officer to be ineligible for export, or not fit for its intended purpose. Where a failed inspection occurs reduced physical inspections must be revoked until there have been five consecutive successful physical inspections, whereupon reduced physical inspections may resume.

If the operator / importer makes a determination that the imported product is ineligible for export or is not fit for purpose, or they are uncertain and consult with an animal products officer prior to making a determination, then this is not regarded as a failed inspection.

- 4.1.4 Verification of the operator's imported products inspection system must be part of the scope of every routine Risk Management Programme verification. If, during such verifications, the operator's imported product inspection system is failed, reduced physical inspections must be revoked until the appropriate corrective actions have been undertaken by the operator, and there have been five consecutive successful physical inspections, whereupon reduced physical inspections may resume.
- 4.1.5 In the case of failures under either 4.1.2 or 4.1.3 the verifier must review the eligibility for export, and fitness for purpose, of all imported product since the last physical inspection by an Animal Products Officer, or previous Risk Management Programme verification with an acceptable outcome for the import inspection system, whichever was most recent.
- 4.1.6 All consignments for which eligibility for official assurances will be required must receive a desktop clearance by the official assurance verifier of the first receiving RMP premises prior to further processing or re-export. The documentation stipulated in OMAR 01/172 as being necessary for clearance must be assessed by the verifier, and the verifier must notify the RMP operator in writing of the outcome of the assessment. There is no prescribed form

in which the verifier notification must be received. The verifier notification forms part of the required records to support eligibility for official assurances and must be kept for 4 years after the product to which the notification relates has been exported, or sold onto the New Zealand market.

- 4.1.7 Nothing in subclause 4.1.2 prevents the verifier from conducting a physical inspection on any given consignment of imported animal product where problems are found as a result of the desktop assessment.

Amendments to Clause 5 of OMAR 01/172

OMAR 01/172 - Import of Foreign Animal Material and Animal Products and Return to New Zealand of New Zealand Animal Material and Animal Products For Domestic Use or Export is hereby amended by adding the following clauses to clause 5 –

- 5.2.1 Foreign imported products which have been devanned at the site to which either an authorised MAF Biosecurity New Zealand official or an Animal Product Officer has directed it to be delivered for inspection purposes remains in compliance with the requirements of OMAR 01/172 provided:
- 5.2.2 none of the product is processed (other than processing necessary to preserve fitness for purpose) or removed from that site; and
- 5.2.3 the Animal Products Officer is immediately notified of the arrival of the product so an import inspection can be arranged; and
- 5.2.4 an animal products officer conducts a complete inventory and identity check on the product; and
- 5.2.5 the inventory check exactly matches the import documentation accompanying the product.

Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

the Act means the Animal Products Act 1999

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 or OMAR 01/172 but is not defined in this document has the same meaning as in the Act or OMAR 01/172.

Explanatory Note

NZFSA has established confidence in the reliability of products imported under certain conditions and is therefore now able to reduce the frequency of inspection, and its associated costs, in those circumstances.

Product security and integrity around the time of border clearance is also able to be assured in more ways than those stipulated in the original notice. This has allowed NZFSA to permit a certain degree of professional discretion to be given to those carrying out inspections regarding whether an animal product has complied with the import requirements of OMAR 01/172 and this notice.