



Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants

ELESEMEN.SPE

22 March 2017

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on 22 March 2017

ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington this 22nd day of March 2017.

Howard Pharo
Manager, Import and Export Animals
Ministry for Primary Industries
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

Contact for further information
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)
Regulation & Assurance Branch
Animal Imports
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140
Email: animalimports@mpi.govt.nz

Contents	Page
Introduction	4
Part 1: Requirements	7
1.1 Application	7
1.2 Definitions	7
1.3 The documentation that must accompany goods	7
1.4 Semen collection at zoo facility	8
1.5 Collection and transport	8
Part 2 – Model Veterinary Certificates	9
Schedule 1 – Document History	11
Schedule 2 – Definitions	12

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 minimum requirements that must be met when importing semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) into New Zealand from Australia.

Background

The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.

Import health standards issued under the Act set out requirements to be met to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with importing goods. They include requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit, and during importation, before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Guidance accompanies this IHS as guidance boxes throughout the IHS itself. Guidance provides information on how the requirements may be met.

Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS applies to importers of semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) from Australia.

Why is this important?

It is the importer's responsibility to ensure the requirements of this IHS are met. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and/or further information may be sought from importers. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may be re-shipped or destroyed under the Act or tested/treated in accordance with this IHS prior to release or equivalence determined. Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of commodity will be recovered in accordance with the Act and any regulations made under the Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of the IHS may be re-shipped, rendered or destroyed using an MPI-approved destruction method.

Equivalence

The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may approve measures under section 27(1)(d) of the Act, different from those set out in this IHS, that may be applied to effectively manage risks associated with the importation of these goods. If an equivalent measure is approved an import permit may be issued under section 24D(2) of the Act, if the Director-General considers it appropriate to do so.

- a) MPI may accept an alternative method, system or process that can be shown to achieve the biosecurity requirements of the IHS (i.e. equivalence).
- b) MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

- c) A permit may be required where specific equivalence measures are approved by MPI. An import permit serves as evidence of equivalence decisions and will be written as specific notes in the special conditions section of the permit.
- d) Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at: [Semen Permit Application](#).
- e) Completed applications are lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

Document History

Refer to Schedule 1.

Biosecurity clearance

- a) A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the commodity meets all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 in the Act are met.
- b) Restricted organisms will not be given biosecurity clearance. On authorisation from the biosecurity inspector, they may be moved from quarantine but must remain in the containment facility.

Other information

This is not an exhaustive list of compliance requirements and it is the importer's responsibility to be familiar with and comply with all New Zealand laws.

New Organisms

Importers of new organisms must meet the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996 requirements.

See guidance document for inspection and verification requirements and for more information about HSNO Act requirements.

CITES

It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that the consignment is accompanied by any permit(s) required to meet the legislation of the country of origin and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) <http://www.cites.org>. See the Department of Conservation for further details <http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/role/international/endangered-species/>.

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.

Any requirement for CITES or other conservation-related documentation must be met by the exporter/importer.

Harmonised System (HS) Codes

The harmonised system is an international product numbering classification developed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO). The New Zealand harmonised system is found here:

<http://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/classifications-and-standards/classification-related-stats-standards/harmonised-system-2012.aspx>.

Animal products imported using this IHS will be under one of the following HS Codes:

HS Code	Commodity Description
0511.99.00.08	Animal products; semen, other than bovine, other than sheep semen

Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This IHS applies to all importers of fresh, chilled or frozen semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) for import from Australia into New Zealand.

1.2 Definitions

- (1) For the purposes of this IHS and the associated guidance, terms used that are defined in the Act have the meanings set out there. The Act is available at the following website:
<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>.
- (2) See Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

1.3 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the following documentation:

1.3.1 Import permit

- (1) A copy of the import permit issued by the Director-General for a single consignment only. The importer must apply to the Director-General for an import permit and include the following information to obtain a permit:
 - a) Name and address of exporter.
 - b) Date of proposed importation.
 - c) Name and address of the containment facility in New Zealand to which the consignment is to proceed following importation.
 - d) Port of arrival.

Guidance

- Import permit application forms can be found on the MPI website at: [Semen Permit Application](#).
- Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

1.3.2 Veterinary certificate

- (1) A veterinary certificate, that must include the following:
 - a) A unique consignment identifier.
 - b) Name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor).
 - c) Name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian.
 - d) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the requirements outlined in Part 1 of this IHS have been met.

Guidance

- A model veterinary certificate is located in Part 2 of this document.

1.3.3 Documents

- (1) All documents must:
 - a) Be original, unless otherwise stated in this IHS.
 - b) Accompany the imported goods.

- c) Be in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible.
- d) Be endorsed on every page by the Official Veterinarian with their original stamp, signature and date or be endorsed in the space allocated and all pages have paper based alternative security features.

1.4 Semen collection at zoo facility

- (1) Semen must be from donors that are resident in an Australian zoo or wildlife park that is registered by the Competent Authority.
- (2) Semen must be collected at an Australian zoo or wildlife park under permanent veterinary supervision, and where a health monitoring programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.

1.5 Collection and transport

- (1) The semen must be in straws, ampoules or a sealed container.
- (2) Personnel collecting and processing semen must be trained in, and practice, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.
- (3) The registered veterinarian supervising the collection must ensure that all equipment and working surfaces likely to come into contact with semen for export have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
- (4) All straws ampoules or containers must be marked with identification of the donor animal/s and the date of collection.
- (5) All products of animal origin used in the collection, processing and storage of the semen must be sterile preparations or be screened for adventitious viruses with negative results.
- (6) Any cryogenic or cooling agent used in the freezing process, storage, and transport must not have been used previously in association with any other product of animal origin.
- (7) The collection and transport containers must be new or disinfected, and free of contamination.
- (8) The transport container in which semen is transported to New Zealand must be sealed, by either the registered veterinarian supervising the collection or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals. The seal number must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.
- (9) Semen must be stored in a secure area prior to export.

Guidance


- Following biosecurity authorisation being given under section 25 of the Act, the semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) must proceed directly to the containment facility named on the import permit.
- The documentation will be checked to ensure it meets all requirements noted under Part 1.

Part 2 – Model Veterinary Certificates

Guidance: Model veterinary certificate for semen from zoo Asian elephants

- Below is a model veterinary certificate for trade in semen from zoo Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*). The model meets the requirements of the IHS.

Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Address:		1.2. Certificate reference number:	
			1.3. Competent Authority:	
	1.4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:			
	1.5. Country of origin: ISO Code*		1.6. Zone or compartment of origin:**	
	1.7. Country of destination: ISO Code*		1.8. Zone or compartment of destination:**	
	1.9. Place of origin: Name: Address:			
	1.10. Place of shipment:		1.11. Date of departure:	
	1.12. Means of transport: <input type="checkbox"/> Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Identification:		1.13. Expected border post:	
			1.14. CITES permit No(s):**	
	1.15. Description of commodity:		1.16. Commodity Code (ISO Code*):	
		1.17. Total number of:		
1.18. Temperature of commodities for transport:		1.19. Total number of packages:		
1.20. Identification of container/serial number:		1.21. Type of packaging:		
1.22. Identification of commodity: Semen from Asian Elephants (<i>Elephas maximus</i>)				
Donor identification			Date of collection	Semen identification

	Country:	Certificate reference number:
Part 2: Veterinary Information	<p>I,..... an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Competent Authority of Australia, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the elephant semen identified in this veterinary certificate, that:</p> <p>(1) The donor elephants are resident in a Competent Authority registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park.</p> <p>(2) The registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park in which the donor animals have been resident is under permanent veterinary supervision, and a health monitoring programme is followed including necropsies, and microbiological and parasitological testing.</p> <p>I,....., the Australian registered veterinarian, certify after due enquiry, with respect to the semen identified in this veterinary certificate that:</p> <p>Semen collection, processing, storage and transport</p> <p>(3) Personnel who collected and processed the semen have been trained in, and practised, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.</p> <p>(4) All equipment and working surfaces involved in the semen collection were appropriately cleaned and disinfected.</p> <p>(5) All semen straws, ampoules or containers were identified with the donor animal/s and the date of collection.</p> <p>(6) All products of animal origin used in collection, processing and storage of the semen were sterile preparations or were screened for adventitious viruses with negative results.</p> <p>(7) Any cryogenic or cooling agent used in the freezing process, storage, and transport have not been used previously in association with any other product of animal origin.</p> <p>(8) The collection and transport containers are new or disinfected and free of contamination.</p> <p>(9) Semen was stored in a secure area prior to export.</p> <p>(10) The transport container in which the semen is transported to New Zealand was sealed by the collection veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals.</p> <p>Seal number _____</p>	
	Semen Collection Veterinarian:	Official Veterinarian:
Name	Name	
Address:	Address:	
Date:	Date:	
Signature:	Signature: 	

Schedule 1 – Document History

This document history is provided for information only and is not part of the legal requirements.

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
22 March 2017	Import Health Standard: Semen from Zoo Asian Elephants	ELESEMEN.SPE
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode

Schedule 2 – Definitions

Approved Country

Countries from which New Zealand enables imports of a particular commodity. The countries must be included in the scope of an import risk analysis/assessment for the commodity and specifically approved by MPI.

Biosecurity Authority

Written authority from an inspector, given under Section 29 of the Act, 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 or other Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, that has 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 *Code* in the whole territory.

CTO Direction

Chief Technical Officer (CTO) Direction - equivalent measures recorded by number under section 27(1)d(iii) of the Act, to enable border staff to clear the goods and record the number in the MPI database.

Director-General

The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Donor(s)

Male animal(s) from which semen was collected.

Germplasm

Ova, semen or embryos collected from animals that are eligible for importation under this import health standard.

Import permit

A permit issued by the Director General of MPI pursuant to section 24D(2) of the Act.

MPI

Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand.

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.

The Code

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code as found on the OIE website.

The Manual

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.

Veterinary Certificate

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the *Code* Chapter for certification procedures, describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities.

Zoo

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 IHS.