Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Import Health Standard

Bovine Germplasm

Final

BOVIGERM.GEN

25 August 2021

Issued under the Biosecurity Act 1993

New Zealand Government

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Bovine Germplasm

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on 25 August 2021

REVOCATION

This Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the following:

a) *Bovine Embryos from Approved Countries, BOVEMID.GEN, 27 June 2011*
b) *Bovine Semen from Approved Countries, BOVSEMID.GEN, 27 June 2011*

ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington, 25 August 2021

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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 minimum requirements that must be met when importing bovine semen and bovine embryos into New Zealand.

The identified risk organisms associated with bovine semen and bovine embryos that are managed by this IHS are:

a) Bovine herpes virus 1.1, 1.2a (semen only)
b) Bovine herpes virus 5 (semen only)
c) Bovine leukaemia virus (semen only)
d) Bovine viral diarrhoea virus type 2
e) Foot and mouth disease virus
f) Lumpy skin disease virus
g) Rift Valley fever virus
h) Bovine brucellosis, *Brucella abortus, B. melitensis* (semen only)
i) *Brucella suis* (semen only)
j) *Campylobacter fetus* subspecies *venerealis (*semen only)
k) *Coxiella burnetii*
l) *Leptospira interrogans* serovar hardjoprajitno serovar
m) *Mycobacterium bovis*
n) *Mycoplasma mycoides* subsp. *mycoides*
o) *Mycoplasma bovis*

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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 before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Guidance boxes are included within this IHS for explanatory purposes. The guidance included in these boxes is for information only and has no legal effect.

A guidance document also accompanies this IHS providing information on how requirements may be met.

Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS should be read by importers of bovine semen and bovine embryos.

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 bovine semen and bovine embryos 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.

Equivalence

A Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may issue a direction under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that measures different from those set out in this IHS 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. The details of the CTO direction on equivalence will be included as notes in the special conditions section of the permit to inform the inspector's assessment of the commodity.

MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz.

Inspection

On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector. The consignment may also be subject to inspection.

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Document History

Refer to Schedule 1.

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.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and new organisms

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

Before an inspector can authorise a new organism to go to a containment facility, the EPA must have given approval for importation of that organism into containment in accordance with the HSNO Act.

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

Trade Single Window (TSW) and Customs clearance

All goods imported into New Zealand need to be cleared by the New Zealand Customs Service (Customs) and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). This is achieved by lodging required documentation in through the Trade Single Window (TSW) portal.

For more information about TSW please visit https://www.customs.govt.nz/business/trade-single-window/

Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

(1) This IHS applies to all imports of frozen semen and *in vivo* derived embryos from the Bovinae subfamily from all countries into New Zealand.

1.2 Incorporation by reference

(1) The following international standards are incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:

a) The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (the *Manual*), available at the OIE website: Terrestrial Manual Online Access - OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health.
b) The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Code*), available at the OIE Website: Terrestrial Code Online Access - OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health.
c) The *International Embryo Transfer Society Manual* (the IETS Manual), available at the IETS website: http://www.iets.org/.
d) The *International Committee for Animal Recording*, available at the ICAR website: www.icar.org.

(2) The following material is incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:

a) MPI *Approved Diagnostic Tests, Vaccines, Treatments and Post-arrival Testing Laboratories for Animal Import Health Standards, MPI-STD-TVTL.*.

(3) Under section 142O(3) of the Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply. That is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces the standards, guideline or lists incorporated under clauses 1.2(1) and (2) above has legal effect as part of this IHS.

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Guidance

- Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements

1.3 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 http://www.legislation.govt.nz/.

(2) See Schedule 2 for additional definitions that apply.

1.4 Requirements for clearance

(1) In order to obtain biosecurity clearance, bovine semen must:

a) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.4-1.9 and 1.11 of *Part 1: Requirements*, and *Part 2: Specified Requirements*; and
b) Be imported from a country that a CTO is satisfied meets the export country systems and certification requirements of clause 1.5; and
c) Be accompanied by a veterinary certificate that meets the requirements of clause 1.13, has been agreed by a CTO, and details the measures in Part 2 that the importing country will meet; and
d) Be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.12.

(2) In order to obtain biosecurity clearance, bovine embryos must:

a) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.6, 1.8, and 1.10 -1.11 of *Part 1: Requirements*, and *Part 2: Specified Requirements*; and
b) Be imported from a country that a CTO is satisfied meets the export country systems and certification requirements of clause 1.5; and
c) Be accompanied by a veterinary certificate that meets the requirements of clause 1.13, has been agreed by a CTO, and details the measures in Part 2 that the importing country will meet; and
d) Be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.12.

1.5 Exporting country systems and certification

(1) Importers may import bovine semen and bovine embryos only if a CTO is satisfied, on the basis of evidence, that the veterinary services of the exporting country are capable of ensuring that bovine semen and bovine embryos imported from that country can meet the requirements of this IHS.

(2) The evidence must include details about all of the following, that the CTO considers applicable to the bovine semen and bovine embryos from that exporting country:

a) The ability of the exporting country's Competent Authority to verify the animal health status of bovine semen and bovine embryos in the exporting country, zone or compartment, with respect to the risk organisms identified in Part 2.
b) The adequacy of the national systems and/or programmes and standards in the exporting country for regulatory oversight of the germplasm collection.
c) The capability of the exporting country's Competent Authority to support the issue of veterinary certificates as required by this IHS.

(3) Importers may not import from a country where a CTO has determined that the Veterinary Services of the exporting country are no longer capable of ensuring that bovine semen and bovine embryos imported from that country can meet the requirements of this IHS.

Guidance

- The evidence will be obtained during evaluation of the Veterinary Services of the Competent Authority of the exporting country in accordance with section 3 of the *Code*.
- Once a CTO is satisfied with the exporting country's evidence for exporting systems and certification, MPI and the Competent Authority may commence negotiation of the country-specific veterinary certificate.
- In order to be satisfied with the evidence provided an in-country or desk-top audit may be carried out at any time, including prior to the first shipment of commodity.
- See *Guidance Document* for more information about exporting country systems and certification, and for a list of currently approved countries and country-specific veterinary certificates.

1.6 Diagnostic tests, vaccines and treatment

(1) All pre-export and/or surveillance testing required by this IHS must be:

a) conducted by a laboratory approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country; or
b) conducted by a laboratory approved by the Competent Authority of any other country approved to export the specified type of germplasm to New Zealand.

(2) All laboratory samples required by this IHS must be collected, processed, and stored in accordance with the recommendations in the *Code* and/or the *Manual* or as described in *MPI-STD-TVTL.*

(3) All diagnostic test(s) and vaccines that are required to be used or undertaken by this IHS must be those that have been approved by MPI for that purpose and documented in *MPI-STD-TVTL.*

(4) All products and vaccinations required by this IHS to be administered to meet the specific disease requirements in Part 2 must have been administered according to the manufacturer's instruction in a country that a CTO has agreed meets the requirements of clause 1.5 of this IHS.

(5) All requirements in this IHS for the administration of a vaccine require that either the final dose of a primary vaccination course is administered or the recommended booster to complement the primary course is administered.

Guidance

- See *Guidance Document* for more information about tests and vaccination.
- MPI's approval process for diagnostic tests, treatments and vaccines includes consultation with the MPI Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) and the test must be deemed valid for diagnostic purposes in bovines and must be appropriate for surveillance for the identified risk organism.

1.7 Semen collection centre requirements

(1) Semen collection must be carried out in a semen collection centre that complies with the recommendations for centres in the *Code* chapter *General Hygiene in Semen Collection and Processing Centres.*

(2) The semen collection centre must be:

a) approved for export to New Zealand by the Competent Authority;
b) subjected to regular inspection, at least every 12 months, by an Official Veterinarian;
c) under the supervision of a semen collection centre veterinarian.

(3) Semen donors may be transferred from one approved semen collection centre to another approved centre of equal health status without isolation or testing if the Competent Authority of the exporting country ensures that all the following requirements are met:

a) Donors must be examined by the approved semen collection centre veterinarian on the day of entry into the centre and show no evidence of infectious disease transmissible in semen.
b) Transfer is direct.
c) Donors must not come into direct or indirect contact with animals of lower health status.
d) The means of transport must be disinfected before use.

1.8 Donor requirements

(1) Semen donors must meet the requirements in the *Code* chapter *Collection and Processing of Bovine, Small Ruminant, and Porcine Semen*, and any additional requirements in Part 2 of this IHS.

(2) During the 28 days in which semen donors are held in pre-entry isolation prior to entering the semen collection centre (as prescribed in the *Code*), they must not be used for natural mating and must be isolated from animals not of equivalent health status.

(3) Embryo donors must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter *Collection and Processing of In Vivo Derived Embryos from Livestock and Equids*, and any additional requirements in Part 2 of this IHS.

(4) Embryo donors must be resident in the embryo collection herd for at least 28 days prior to embryo collection for export to New Zealand. While resident with the collection herd, the herd must not be subject to veterinary restrictions for the identified risk organisms managed in Part 2 of this IHS.

(5) Germplasm donors that were imported to the exporting country must have lived continuously in approved countries for at least the 60 days before germplasm collection.

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(6) On the day of germplasm collection, the embryo collection team veterinarian or semen collection centre veterinarian must determine that the donors are free from clinical evidence of infectious diseases transmissible in germplasm.

(7) Where a specific requirement of this IHS is met by pre-collection testing, the germplasm donors must be isolated from other animals not of equivalent tested health status, from the time of the test sample collection until completion of germplasm collection for export to New Zealand.

(8) Where a specific requirement of this IHS for a risk organism is met by monitoring the germplasm donors for clinical signs for a specified time after collection, the germplasm must be stored for that amount of time prior to export.

Guidance

- See *Guidance Document* for the model veterinary certification.

1.9 Semen collection, processing, and storage

(1) Semen collection, processing and storage must comply with the sections relevant for bovine semen in the *Code* chapter *Collection and Processing of Bovine, Small Ruminant, and Porcine Semen,* unless otherwise stated in Part 2 of this IHS.

(2) Where Part 2 requires testing within a certain time period before or after semen collection:

a) Semen collection may be a time period of up to 60 consecutive days.
b) Samples for testing before collection must be obtained within the specified period before the first day of the semen collection period.
c) Tests required after semen collection must have samples collected within the specified period after the last day of the semen collection period.

(3) A 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.

(4) All straws must be sealed, and clearly and permanently marked to identify the donor and the date(s) of freezing. The markings must conform to international standards of the *International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR)*. If a code is used for this information, its decipher instructions must accompany the consignment.

(5) Semen must only be stored and transported with germplasm that has been collected and processed in accordance with the *Code*.

(6) Semen must be held in a storage place approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country until the time of export.

(7) Subject to (8), semen must only be imported into New Zealand if the semen is imported directly from the country in which it was collected.

(8) If semen is collected in a country that meets the requirements of 1.5 of this IHS and stored in another country that also meets the requirements of 1.5 of this IHS (country of storage), that semen may be imported into New Zealand if the consignment is accompanied by:

a) A declaration from the Competent Authority of the country of storage that:

i) identifies the semen from the country of origin as the semen being exported to New Zealand;
ii) certifies that the semen has been stored and transported in the country of storage in accordance with the requirements of this IHS.

b) Evidence that the semen meets the rest of the requirements of this IHS in the form of either:

i) a veterinary certificate issued by the Competent Authority of the origin country; or

ii) a letter from the Competent Authority of the origin country confirming the semen meets the requirements of this IHS and indicating which requirements therein have been fulfilled.

1.10 Embryo collection, processing and storage

(1) Embryos must be collected, washed, processed, stored and traceability maintained under the supervision of an embryo collection team veterinarian and in accordance with:

a) the recommendations in the OIE *Code* chapter on *Collection and Processing of In Vivo Derived Embryos from Livestock and Equids*;
b) the recommendations in the IETS *Manual*.

(2) The embryo collection team must operate in accordance with the conditions listed in the OIE *Code* chapter on *Collection and Processing of In Vivo Derived Embryos from Livestock and Equids.*

(3) At the time of embryo collection each embryo must be examined over its entire surface at not less than 50X magnification and found to have an intact zona pellucida and be free of adherent material.

(4) Any micro-manipulation that causes a breach of the zona pellucida must be done as per the procedures described in the OIE *Code* chapter *Collection and Processing of Micromanipulated Oocytes or Embryos from Livestock and Horses* and the IETS *Manual*.

(5) All biological products of animal origin used in the media and solutions for collection, processing, washing or storage of embryos must be free of pathogenic organisms including pestiviruses and prions. Media and solutions must be sterilised by approved methods according to the IETS *Manual* and handled in a manner that ensures sterility is maintained.

(6) All straws must be sealed, and clearly and permanently marked to identify the donor and the date(s) of freezing. The markings must conform to international standards of the *International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR)* and the IETS *Manual*. If a code is used for this information, its decipher instructions must accompany the consignment.

(7) Embryos must only be stored and transported with germplasm that has been collected and processed in accordance with the OIE *Code*.

(8) Embryos must only be held in a storage place approved by the Competent Authority until the time of export.

(9) Subject to (10), embryos can only be imported into New Zealand if the embryos are imported directly from the country in which they were collected.

(10) If embryos are collected in a country that meets the requirements of 1.5 of this IHS and stored in another country that also meets the requirements of 1.5 of this IHS (country of storage), those embryos may be imported into New Zealand if the consignment is accompanied by:

a) A declaration from the Competent Authority of the country of storage that:

i) identifies the embryos from the country of origin as the embryos being exported to New Zealand;
ii) certifies that the embryos have been stored and transported in the country of storage in accordance with the requirements of this IHS.

b) Evidence that the embryos meet the rest of the requirements of this IHS in the form of either:

i) a veterinary certificate issued by the Competent Authority of the origin country; or
ii) a letter from the Competent Authority of the origin country confirming the embryos meet the requirements of this IHS and indicating which requirements therein have been fulfilled.

1.11 Transport

(1) All transport containers in which germplasm is transported to New Zealand must be new or disinfected and confirmed empty prior to loading. When a transport container is disinfected, the disinfectant, its active chemical and the date of disinfection must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

(2) All transport containers in which semen is transported to New Zealand must be sealed, by either the semen collection centre veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals that are positioned to ensure that no germplasm can be added after the transport container has been sealed. The seal number must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

(3) Where germplasm is transferred from one transport container to another, the date of transfer, approved collection centre/herd or storage facility, reason for transfer, and the name of veterinarian involved in the transfer must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

1.12 Import permit information

(1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required prior to the importation of consignments of bovine semen and bovine embryos from all countries.

Guidance

- Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz
- Application forms can be found on the MPI website at: Permit Application for Importing Semen and Embryos, or apply online at the following weblink when active: https://animalplantimportpermit.mpi.govt.nz/

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1.13 The documentation that must accompany goods

(1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the documentation that is specified in, and meets the requirements of, clauses 1.13.1 to 1.13.3 below.

(2) All documentation that is required by this clause 1.13 to accompany bovine semen and bovine embryos must be:

a) in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible;
b) original.

(3) Documentation that is in a paper format must 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.

(4) Documentation that is in an electronic format must be transmitted directly from the Competent Authority of the exporting country to MPI, using an electronic system approved by MPI for that purpose.

Guidance

- Copies of all documents that are required to accompany the goods should be submitted to the Biosecurity Inspector at the airport/port of arrival as early as possible to avoid delays in border clearance. The recommended timeframe is at least 3 working days in advance of arrival.
- A Trade Single Window (TSW) lodgement is required to meet both MPI and Customs requirements. For more information about TSW please visit: https://www.customs.govt.nz/business/trade-single-window/

1.13.1 Import permit

(1) An import permit (copy acceptable) as required by clause 1.12.

1.13.2 Veterinary certificate

(1) A veterinary certificate from the exporting country's Competent Authority. The veterinary certificate must include the following:

a) A unique consignment identifier
b) Species, donor identification, quantity (of semen/embryos)
c) Dates of collection
d) For semen, the name and address of the approved semen collection centre, name of the centre's veterinarian, and date of donor entry
e) For embryos, confirmation of the Competent Authority's approval of the embryo collection team, name of the team's veterinarian, and date of entry into and address of the embryo collection herd/centre
f) Name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor)
g) Transport container number seal number and disinfection information
h) Name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian
i) A list of all vaccines administered to meet specific disease import requirements, including vaccine name, the virus types and strains included in the vaccine (where applicable), and vaccination date(s)
j) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the relevant general requirements outlined in Part 1 of this IHS have been met
k) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the relevant specified requirements outlined in Part 2 of this IHS have been met.

Guidance

- Where equivalent measures have been negotiated and agreed with MPI, and a CTO has, prior to import, issued a direction under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that is different from those in this standard in the form of a negotiated veterinary certificate, a country-specific veterinary certificate must accompany the consignment.
- See *Guidance Document* for more information about equivalence and country-specific veterinary certificates.

1.13.3 Laboratory reports

(1) Subject to (3), original laboratory reports; copies of laboratory reports endorsed by the Official Veterinarian; or a tabulated summary of laboratory results endorsed by the Official Veterinarian must be provided as evidence of all tests required by Part 2 of this IHS.

(2) Laboratory reports or a tabulated summary must include:

a) Unique identification for each animal, consistent with the veterinary certificate
b) Dates of sample collection or vaccination
c) Test/vaccination type
d) Test result.

(3) Notwithstanding (1), a CTO may determine that laboratory reports are not required as part of the exporting country's certification process (clause 1.5 of this IHS).

1.14 Transitional arrangements

(1) From 25 August 2021 to 25 April 2022, the requirements of this import standard for importing bovine embryos may be met by complying with the requirements of the *Import Health Standard for Bovine*

Embryos from Approved Countries, BOVEMID.GEN in force immediately before the revocation of the *Import Health Standard for Bovine Embryos from Approved Countries, BOVEMID.GEN*.

(2) From 25 August 2021 to 25 April 2022, the requirements of this import standard for importing bovine semen may be met by complying with the requirements of the *Import Health Standard for Bovine Semen from Approved Countries, BOVSEMID.GEN* in force immediately before the revocation of the *Import Health Standard for Bovine Semen from Approved Countries, BOVSEMID.GEN*.

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Part 2: Specified Requirements

2.1 Bovine herpes virus 1.1 and 1.2a (infectious bovine rhinotracheitis/infectious pustular vulvovaginitis, IBR/IPV)

(1) At the time of collection of semen for export to New Zealand, the exporting country must be free from BHV 1.1 and BHV 1.2a in accordance with the OIE *Code*; or

(2) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from BHV 1.1 and 1.2a from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, through compliance with the recommendations in the OIE *Code* in relation to BHV, with the following modifications:

a) Test all cattle prior to pre-entry isolation for antibodies using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results;
b) Test all cattle in pre-entry isolation for antibodies using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results, or where an animal in a group has tested positive re-testing the remaining animals, with negative results, not less than 21 days after removal of the positive animal;
c) Thereafter, annually re-test all cattle for antibodies using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results; or

(3) The semen donor must be:

a) held in isolation for the 30 days following collection;
b) tested for BHV 1.1 and 1.2a using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* at least 21 days after semen collection for export to New Zealand, with negative results; or

(4) An aliquot of semen from each semen collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for BHV 1.1 and 1.2a using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.2 Bovine herpes virus 5 (BHV5)

(1) The semen donor's centres of residence must have had no cases of BHV5 (suspected or diagnosed) in the year prior to collection for export to New Zealand.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.3 Bovine leukaemia virus (Enzootic Bovine Leukosis, EBL)

(1) At the time of semen collection for export to New Zealand, the exporting country must be recognised by a CTO as free from EBL; or

(2) The semen donor must be resident at the time of semen collection in a herd certified as free from EBL by the Competent Authority; and

a) If less than two years of age, the semen donor must come from a 'uterine dam' that has been subjected to serological test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*; or
b) The semen donor must originate from a herd certified as free by the Competent Authority; or
c) The semen donor must be subjected to a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for EBL, with negative results, between 30 days before and 30 days after collection of the semen; or

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(3) The semen donor must be subjected to a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for EBL on two occasions with negative results, the first test being carried out at least 30 days before and the second test at least 90 days after collection of the semen; or

(4) The semen donor must be subjected to a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for EBL, with negative results, between 30 days before and 30 days after collection of the semen; and

a) the semen donor must pass a breeding soundness exam, including manual rectal palpation or visible observation with rectal ultrasound of the seminal vesicles, conducted on the day of collection by a collection centre veterinarian; or

(5) An aliquot of semen from each collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for BLV using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.4 Bovine viral diarrhoea virus genotype 2 (BVDV2)

(1) At the time of germplasm collection for export to New Zealand, the exporting country must be recognised by a CTO as free from BVDV2; or

(2) Semen:

a) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from BVDV2 from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, in accordance with the recommendations in the OIE *Code* in relation to BVDV, with the following modifications:

i) Test all cattle within 30 days prior to pre-entry isolation using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*
ii) Test all cattle after 21 days isolation using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*
iii) If any animal seroconverts, keep all animals in pre-entry isolation until there is no more seroconversion for 3 weeks
iv) Only approve entry for groups where pre-entry isolation results indicate the absence of antigen-positive cattle
v) Annually re-test seronegative cattle using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*
vi) For seropositive donors, test semen for BVDV2 using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* with negative results, prior to collection for export to New Zealand; or

b) An aliquot of semen from each semen collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for BVDV2 using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results.

(3) Embryos:

a) A sample of the unfiltered collection fluid or an embryo from the collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for BVDV2 in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL* with negative results; or
b) The embryo donor must be tested for persistent BVDV2 infection using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results; and the

i) semen used to produce the embryo must satisfy the requirements of this IHS
ii) embryo donor must not have been vaccinated against BVDV2 in the last 30 days
iii) embryo donor must be tested for acute BVDV2 infection in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL,* with negative results, in one of the following ways:

1) using the antigen capture ELISA test immediately prior to an isolation period of at least 21 days before collection for New Zealand. Isolation must exclude cattle that were not tested negative for BVDV2 upon entry to the collection herd, and throughout isolation the herd showed no clinical signs consistent with BVDV2; or
2) using the virus isolation test within 48 hours of collection for New Zealand; or

3) serologically tested between 2 weeks and 6 months after collection.

2.5 Foot and mouth disease (FMD)

(1) Semen:

a) The donor must be resident for at least the 3 months before the semen collection in a country or zone that is free from FMD without vaccination in accordance with the OIE *Code*; or

b) The herd of origin, semen collection centre, donor animal and semen for export to New Zealand must comply with OIE *Code* recommendations for export of bovine semen from countries or zones presenting a risk of FMD; and

i) Each semen collection, processing and storage facility in the exporting country intended to be used during the preparation of an export consignment to New Zealand must be approved by a CTO.

(2) Embryos:

a) The donor must be resident for at least the 3 months before embryo collection in a country or zone that is free from FMD without vaccination in accordance with the OIE *Code*; or

b) The herd of origin, the embryo collection herd where the donors were resident during embryo collection, the donor animal and the embryos for export to New Zealand must comply with the OIE *Code* FMD Article *Recommendations for the Importation of In Vivo Derived Embryos of Cattle*; and

i) Each embryo collection, processing and storage facility in the exporting country, intended to be used during the preparation of an export consignment to New Zealand, must be approved by a CTO.

Guidance

- The approval will be dependent on the establishment, its location and operating standards, and that the verification systems of the veterinary authority achieve a very high level of risk management for FMD. The process for MPI approval may include site inspection. MPI reserves the right to supervise collection or require any other measures deemed necessary to ensure compliance with facility and operating standards upon which the approval is based.

2.6 Lumpy skin disease (LSD)

(1) The germplasm donor must be resident for 6 months prior to germplasm collection in a country or zone that is free of LSD as defined by the OIE *Code*; or

(2) The germplasm donor must be resident in an establishment that was free of clinical evidence of LSD during a period from at least 6 months prior to commencement, until 28 days after conclusion of germplasm collection for export to New Zealand; or

(3) An aliquot of semen or a sample of embryos/oocytes, collection fluids and/or washing fluids from each germplasm collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for LSD using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* with negative results.

2.7 Rift Valley fever virus (RVF)

(1) The donor must be resident, for at least the 30 days prior to, and during germplasm collection for export to New Zealand in a country or zone that is free from RVF in accordance with the OIE *Code*; or

(2) The donor must not show any clinical signs of RVF within the period from 14 days prior to and 14 days following germplasm collection; and either

a) the donor must be vaccinated against RVF in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL* at least 14 days prior to collection; or
b) the donor must be demonstrated to be seropositive on the day of collection using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*; or
c) testing of paired samples using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* must demonstrate that seroconversion did not occur between germplasm collection and 14 days after.

2.8 *Brucella melitensis,* and *Brucella abortus* (bovine brucellosis)

(1) The semen donor must be kept since birth in a country or zone that is free from *Brucella* in accordance with the OIE *Code*; or

(2) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from *Brucella* from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, through compliance with the recommendations in the OIE *Code* in relation to *Brucella*, with the following modifications:

a) The donor must be from a country, zone, or herd that is free from *Brucella* in accordance with the OIE *Code* or the Competent Authority;
b) During the 30 days prior to pre-entry isolation, the donor must be tested using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for *Brucella*, with negative results;
c) All cattle in pre-entry isolation must be tested using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for *Brucella*, with negative results;
d) At least annually all cattle resident in the semen collection centre must be tested using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for *Brucella*, with negative results; or

(3) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from *Brucella* from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, through compliance with the Competent Authority's collection centre testing program in relation to *Brucella*.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.9 *Brucella suis*

(1) The semen donor must be kept since birth in a country or zone that is recognised by a CTO as free from *Brucella suis*; or

(2) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from *Brucella suis* from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, through compliance with the Competent Authority's collection centre testing program in relation to *Brucella suis*; or

(3) The donor must be tested using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for *Brucella suis* between 2 weeks after entry into the collection centre and 90 days after collection, with negative results.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.10 *Campylobacter fetus* subspecies *venerealis* (*Cfv*) (bovine genital campylobacteriosis, BGC)

(1) At the time of collection for New Zealand, the semen collection centre must have a programme, approved by the Competent Authority or aligned with the OIE *Code*, to prevent *Cfv* infected animals from entering the collection herd, and there must have been no case of bovine genital

campylobacteriosis reported in centre in the 1 year prior to collection; or

(2) A preputial or semen sample from the donor must be tested for *Cvf* using a listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* in the last 6 months, and all tests conducted in the last 6 months must have been negative.

Guidance

- There are no import requirements for embryos.

2.11 *Coxiella burnetii* (Q-fever)

(1) The germplasm donor must never have been confirmed positive for Q fever; and either

a) The donor must be subjected to a serological test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for Q fever, on a sample collected between 21 and 120 days after each germplasm collection for export to New Zealand, with negative results; or

b) An aliquot of semen or a sample of embryos/oocytes, collection fluids and/or washing fluids from each germplasm collection for export to New Zealand must be tested for Q fever using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results; or

c) Within the 6-month period before or after germplasm collection for New Zealand, but before export, the embryo collection herd or semen collection centre herd must be tested for Q fever, using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL,* with negative results. The Q fever test must be:

i) performed on either the whole herd or a random sample of at least 60 animals (whichever is the lesser number); and

ii) the herd must be isolated for the period between semen collection and diagnostic sampling.

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2.12 *Leptospira interrogans* serovar hardjoprajitno (leptospirosis)

(1) Antibiotics must be added to germplasm in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL*; or

(2) The donor must be serologically tested in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL*.

2.13 *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (bovine tuberculosis)

(1) Semen:

a) At the time of collection for New Zealand, the semen collection centre must be:

i) free from bovine tuberculosis in accordance with the OIE *Code* or the Competent Authority of the exporting country;

ii) located in a country or zone that was recognised by a CTO as free from bovine tuberculosis; or

b) The semen collection centre must be maintained free from bovine tuberculosis from commencement until conclusion of semen collection for export to New Zealand, in accordance with the recommendations in the OIE *Code* in relation to bovine tuberculosis;

i) Prior to pre-entry isolation, donors must be from a herd free from bovine tuberculosis, either in accordance with the OIE *Code* or the Competent Authority of the exporting country;

ii) At least annually all resident cattle must be tested using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for bovine tuberculosis, with negative results.

(2) Embryos:

a) There must not have been any clinical signs of bovine tuberculosis observed in the embryo collection herd during the 24 hours prior to embryo collection for export to New Zealand;
b) The donor must be from an embryo collection herd that was free from bovine tuberculosis at the time of collection for export to New Zealand in accordance with the OIE *Code* or the Competent Authority of the exporting country; and the donor must be:

i) from a country or zone recognised by a CTO as free from bovine tuberculosis; or
ii) subjected to a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for bovine tuberculosis during the period between 30 days prior to and 12 months after embryo collection for export to New Zealand, with negative results.

2.14 *Mycoplasma mycoides* subspecies *mycoides SC* (contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, CBPP)

(1) The germplasm donor must be born in and have been continuously resident in a country that is recognised by a CTO as free from CBPP; or

(2) The germplasm donor must:

a) never have been vaccinated for CBPP;
b) be kept since birth, or for at least the 6 months prior to commencement until conclusion of germplasm collection for export to New Zealand in establishments where no case of CBPP has been reported, and which are not situated in a CBPP infected zone, as defined by the OIE *Code;*
c) be serologically tested for CBPP, using a test listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* on two occasions 21 to 30 days apart, with the last test within 14 days prior to germplasm collection for export to New Zealand, with negative results.

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2.15 *Mycoplasma bovis*

(1) Semen:

a) Collection and processing of the semen must be in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE *Code*, with the modifications indicated in *MPI-STD-TVTL*; or
b) The semen donor must be subjected to a test for *M. bovis* listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL,* with negative results; or
c) Each semen collection for export to New Zealand must be tested using a validated test for *M. bovis* in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results.

(2) Embryos:

a) Collection and processing of the embryos must be in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE *Code*, with the modifications indicated in *MPI-STD-TVTL*: or
b) The embryo donor must be subjected to a test for *M. bovis* listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL,* with negative results; or
c) Each embryo collection for export to New Zealand must be tested using a validated test for *M. bovis* in accordance with *MPI-STD-TVTL*, with negative results.

Schedule 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
25 August 2021	Import Health Standard: Bovine Germplasm	BOVIGERM.GEN
Date of Issued Amendments	**Title**	**Shortcode**

Final

Schedule 2 – Definitions

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.

Donor

Female animal from which embryos were collected, or male animal from which semen was collected.

Director-General

The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Germplasm

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

IETS

International Embryo Transfer Society.

IETS Manual

Manual for embryo collection, processing and transfer as written by the IETS. Any references to this Manual are to the most current version.

In Vivo Derived Embryos

Embryos recovered after fertilisation in the reproductive tract of the female donor.

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.

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