



Import Health Standard

Ruminant Meat and Ruminant Meat Products

RUMNPROD.GEN

[Document Date]

Draft for
Consultation

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Ruminant Meat and Ruminant Meat Products

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on [Effective Date]

The amendment history to this import health standard is set out in Schedule 1.

On [insert date 6 months after issue] this Import Health Standard revokes and replaces the Import Health Standards listed in Schedule 2.

On [insert date 6 months after issue] this import health standard amends the Import Health Standards listed in Schedule 3

ISSUING AUTHORITY

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

Dated at Wellington, [Document Date]

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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 ruminant meat and ruminant meat products into New Zealand.

The identified risk organisms associated with ruminant meat and ruminant meat products that are managed by this IHS are:

- a) Foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus
- b) *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax)
- c) Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) prion, (*Bos taurus* and *B.indicus* only)
- d) *Brucella* spp. (brucellosis)
- e) *Salmonella* spp. (salmonellosis)
- f) *Echinococcus granulosus* (hydatidosis)
- g) *Taenia multiceps* (*Coenurus cerebralis*)

For the following risk organisms only *Part 1: General Requirements* apply:

- a) *Salmonella* spp. (salmonellosis)
- b) *Taenia multiceps* (*Coenurus cerebralis*)

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 ruminant meat and ruminant meat products.

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 ruminant meat and ruminant meat products 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

The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may issue a direction under section 27(1)(d) of the Act that allows measures different from those set out in this IHS to 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.

Biosecurity clearance

A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the ruminant meat and ruminant meat products meet all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 in the Act are met.

Inspection

On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector.

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.

Food Act 2014 and Animal Products Act 1999

Consignments of food imported for sale into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with relevant requirements of the Food Act 2014, the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code, and the Animal Products Act 1999.

See *Guidance Document* for more information about the Food Act 2014 and Animal Products Act 1999.

Biosecurity (Ruminant Protein) Regulations 1999

Tallow intended for inclusion in livestock feed and having insoluble impurities of more than 0.15% in weight must be labelled with the following statement in accordance with the Biosecurity (Ruminant Protein) Regulations 1999:

"Notice: Do not feed to sheep, cattle, deer, goats, buffaloes, or other ruminant animals. This product contains or may contain ruminant protein."

The label must:

- a) have text at least 20mm high, or
- b) occupy at least 2.5% of the total area of:
 - i) the outside of a flattened package, or
 - ii) the container (excluding the top and bottom), or
 - iii) the printed side of an invoice, waybill or document.

Import Health Standards

Other relevant IHSs must also be complied with before biosecurity clearance will be issued. These may include but are not limited to the following:

- a) Consignments containing wood packaging material must meet the requirements of the following:
IHS: Wood Packaging Material from All Countries

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). To gain Customs clearance, the required documentation must be lodged through the Trade Single Window (TSW) portal.

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

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Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This IHS applies to all imports of ruminant meat and ruminant meat products, which includes:
 - a) fresh meat (chilled or frozen);
 - b) meat products;
 - c) blood and blood products;
 - d) fat and fat products;
 - e) offal (including runners); and
 - f) bone and bone products.
- (2) This IHS does not apply to ruminant meat or ruminant meat products that are imported for the following purposes:
 - a) fertiliser;
 - b) laboratory use;
 - c) microbiological testing;
 - d) therapeutic use on or in humans; or
 - e) veterinary use on or in animals.

Guidance for 1.1

- The following commodities may be imported under the *IHS: Specified Animal Products, SPECPROD.ALL*:
 - Canned or retorted ruminant meat products from BSE-negligible and controlled risk countries.
 - Foods that contain less than 5% of ruminant meat.
 - Meat and/or bone extract, concentrate or broth (consumer ready).
 - Gelatine, dicalcium phosphate, collagen.
 - Tallow and its derivatives.
- Natural salted sausage casings may be imported under:
the *IHS: Natural Sausage Casings, SAUSCASE.GEN*.
- Composite products containing more than one animal product ingredient will be eligible for import if all animal product ingredients in the product meet the requirements of their respective animal product IHS.
- The following products are not eligible for entry under this IHS:
 - Fertiliser products, including meat and bone meal.
 - Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products for therapeutic use on or in humans. These may be imported under *IHS SPECPROD.ALL*
 - Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products for veterinary use on or in animals. These may be imported under *IHS: Biological Products (including samples), BIOPRODIC.ALL* (soon to be *IHS: Biological Products, BIOLOGIC.ALL*)

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 OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Code*), available at the OIE website: [Terrestrial Manual Online Access - OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)
- (2) The following material is incorporated by reference in this IHS under section 142M of the Act:

- a) OIE list of Member Countries with a BSE risk status: [Bovine spongiform encephalopathy – OIE – World Organisation for Animal Health](#)
 - b) OIE list of FMD-free countries: [Foot and mouth disease - OIE - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)
- (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.

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 4 for additional definitions that apply.

1.4 Requirements for clearance

- (1) To obtain biosecurity clearance, ruminant meat and ruminant meat products:
 - a) from Australia (for human consumption) must:
 - i) meet the requirements of clauses 1.6 (2), and 1.7 -1.8 of *Part 1: Requirements*, and *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms*;
 - ii) originate from a government licensed and supervised slaughtering establishment that slaughters animals for human consumption; and
 - iii) be identifiable as being product originating from Australia and/or New Zealand.
 - iv) be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.9.
 - b) from countries other than Australia, and for commodities from Australia that do not meet clause 1.4.(1) a must:
 - i) meet the requirements of clauses 1.6 -1.8 of *Part 1: Requirements*, and *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms*;
 - ii) be imported from a country that the CTO is satisfied meets the export country systems and certification requirements of clause 1.5;
 - iii) be accompanied by a veterinary certificate that meets the requirements of clause 1.10, that has been agreed by the CTO, and details the measures in *Part 2* that the importing country will meet; and
 - iv) be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.9.

1.5 Exporting country systems and certification

- (1) Importers may import ruminant meat and ruminant meat products only if a CTO is satisfied, on the basis of evidence, that the Veterinary Services of the exporting country is capable of ensuring that ruminant meat and ruminant meat products imported from that country can meet the requirements of this IHS.
- (2) The evidence must include details of all the following that the CTO considers applicable to the ruminant meat and ruminant meat products from that exporting country:

- a) The ability of the exporting country's Competent Authority to verify the animal health status of ruminant meat and ruminant meat products in the exporting country, zone or compartment, with respect to the risk organisms identified in *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms*.
 - b) The adequacy of the national systems and/or programmes and standards in the exporting country for regulatory oversight of the ruminant meat industry.
 - 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 ruminant meat and ruminant meat products 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 *Quality of Veterinary Services* of the *Code*.
- Once the 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.
- For the CTO 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 Processing

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products can only be imported if the animal from which the product was derived was slaughtered and processed in a premises approved by the exporting country's Competent Authority as meeting the *Code* chapter for *Control of Biological Hazards of Animal Health and Public Health Importance Through Ante- and Post-mortem Meat Inspection*.
- (2) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be processed at premises that follow Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HAACP) programmes to the satisfaction of the Competent Authority of the exporting country.
- (3) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be processed at premises that are approved for export of ruminant meat and ruminant meat products by the Competent Authority of the Exporting Country.

1.7 Packaging and transport

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products for export to New Zealand must be packaged and sealed in tamper and leakproof packaging at the time of manufacture.
- (2) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be stored and subsequently transported in a hygienic manner and be kept free of contaminants.
- (3) Consignments of ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be clearly identified and the identifier must be stated on the veterinary certificate, where applicable.
- (4) Packaging containing ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be clean, secure, and free of any organic contaminants.

1.8 Third country product

- (1) Where ruminant meat and ruminant meat products for export to New Zealand originate from a country other than the exporting country, the country of origin (source country) of the ruminant meat and ruminant meat product must meet the requirements under clause 1.5 to export ruminant meat and ruminant meat products to New Zealand.

Guidance

- New Zealand may be the source country.
- The ability to export ruminant meat and ruminant meat products from source countries other than the exporting country will be considered during the exporting country's systems and certification assessment.

1.9 Import permit information

- (2) An import permit under section 24D of the Act issued by the Director-General is required if a CTO has approved an equivalent measure prior to import, different from that set in this IHS that may be applied to effectively manage risks.
- (3) An import permit is not required where a CTO has issued a direction under section 27(1)(d) for a measure that is different from that set in this IHS during negotiation of a country-specific veterinary certificate and the equivalent measure is incorporated into that certificate.

Guidance

- Ensure you have all relevant documentation prepared prior to applying for an import permit
- Apply for the import permit at the following weblink: <https://animalplantimportpermit.mpi.govt.nz/>

1.10 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) All documentation that is required by clause 1.10 to accompany ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must, unless otherwise stated:
 - a) Be in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible.
 - b) Be original.
- (2) Documentation that is in a paper format must, unless otherwise stated, 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.
- (3) Documentation that is in an electronic format must, unless otherwise stated, be transmitted directly from the Competent Authority of the exporting country to MPI, using an electronic system approved by MPI for that purpose.
- (4) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with the following documentation:

1.10.1 Import permit

- (1) An import permit (copy acceptable), where required by this IHS, which applies to a single consignment.

1.10.2 Veterinary certificate

- (1) A veterinary certificate from the exporting country's Competent Authority, where required by this IHS, which must include all of the following:
 - a) A unique consignment identifier.
 - b) The description, source species, and amount of product.
 - c) The name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor).
 - d) The name, signature, and contact details of the Official Veterinarian.
 - e) Endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the general requirements outlined in *Part 1: Requirements* of this IHS have been met.
 - f) Endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the relevant requirements outlined in *Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms* of this IHS have been met except for those requirements that a CTO has agreed during negotiation under clause 1.5 as not being required for a country-specific veterinary certificate.

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: Ruminant Meat and Ruminant Meat Products* for more information about equivalence and country-specific veterinary certificates.

1.11 Transitional arrangements

- (1) From [date this IHS is issued until 6 months later] the requirements of this import standard for importing ruminant meat and ruminant meat products may be met by complying with the requirements of the import health standards in Schedule 2 in force immediately before the revocation of these import health standards.
- (2) From [date this IHS is issued until 6 months later] the requirements of this import standard for importing ruminant meat and ruminant meat products may be met by complying with the requirements of the import health standards in Schedule 3.

Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must comply with the following measures for identified risk organisms, where required:

2.1 Foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must meet the Code recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones or FMD free compartments where vaccination is not practised; or
- (2) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products (excluding head, pharynx, tongue, and associated lymph nodes) must meet the Code recommendations for importation from FMD free countries or zones where vaccination is practised; or
- (3) Fresh meat of cattle and water buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*) (excluding feet, head and viscera) must meet the Code recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones where an official and MPI-approved control programme exists; or
- (4) Ruminant meat products must meet the Code recommendations for importation from FMD infected countries or zones.

2.2 *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax)

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must originate from animals from establishments that are not under quarantine restrictions for anthrax; and
- (2) No case of anthrax has occurred on the establishment of origin during the 20 days preceding slaughter; and
- (3) The ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must originate from animals which have not been vaccinated against anthrax with a live vaccine during the 14 days prior to slaughter. This period may be longer, in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

2.3 *Brucella* spp. (brucellosis)

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be a safe commodity as defined in the *Brucella* chapter of the Code; or
- (2) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be derived from animals that:
 - a) have not been culled as part of an eradication programme against infection with *Brucella*; or
 - b) originate from an officially free country or zone free from infection with *Brucella*, as relevant; or
 - c) originate from a herd or flock free from infection with *Brucella*.

2.4 *Echinococcus granulosus* (hydatidosis)

2.4.1 For ruminant meat and ruminant meat products from Australia

- (1) Ruminant meat or ruminant meat products, excluding offal, may be imported when it has passed ante- and post-mortem inspection; or
- (2) Offal may be imported when it has passed ante- and post-mortem inspection for human consumption; or
- (3) Offal may be imported when it has passed ante- and post-mortem inspection and has undergone one of the following treatments;

- a) Heat treatment to a core temperature of at least 80°C for ten minutes or an equivalent time and temperature; or
- b) Freezing to minus 20°C or below for at least two days.

2.4.2 For ruminant meat and ruminant meat products from all countries other than Australia

- (1) Ruminant meat or ruminant meat products, excluding offal, may be imported when it has passed ante- and post-mortem inspection in a slaughterhouse approved for export; or
- (2) Offal may be imported when it has passed ante- and post-mortem inspection in a slaughterhouse approved for export and has undergone one of the following treatments:
 - a) Heat treatment to a core temperature of at least 80°C for ten minutes or an equivalent time and temperature; or
 - b) Freezing to minus 20°C or below for at least two days.

2.5 Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) prion (applies to *Bos taurus* and *B. indicus* only)

- (1) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products must be a BSE safe commodity as per below:
 - a) collagen (from hides and skins, or tendons)
 - b) dicalcium phosphate
 - c) gelatine
 - d) tallow with insoluble impurities of less than 0.15% in weight and its derivatives, or
- (2) Ruminant meat and ruminant meat products [other than those described in clause 2.5 (1)] must meet the specified *Code* recommendations for:
 - a) a country, zone or compartment posing a **negligible BSE risk**; or
 - b) a country, zone or compartment posing a **controlled BSE risk**.
- (3) Ruminant meat products [other than those described in clause 2.5 (1)] must meet the specified *Code* recommendations for:
 - a) a country, zone or compartment posing an **undetermined BSE risk**.

Schedule 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
3 February 2021 Internal Consultation	Import Health Standard: Ruminant Meat and Ruminant Meat Products	IHS RUMNPROD.GEN
16 September 2021 External Consultation	Import Health Standard: Ruminant Meat and Ruminant Meat Products	IHS RUMNPROD.GEN
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Schedule 2 – List of IHSs containing only ruminant meat and ruminant meat products

- *Beef/Deer/Sheep/Goat Meat and Meat Products from Australia, MEABDSIC.AUS, 23 May 2000*
- *Bovine Meat (Beef) for Human Consumption from the European Union, MEABEEIC.EEC, 29 September 2004*
- *Bovine Meat (Beef) for Human Consumption from Japan, MEABEEIC.JAP, 3 February 2014*
- *Bovine Meat and Meat Products from Canada and the USA, MEABEEIC.NAM, 31 October 2014*
- *Cervine (Deer) Meat for Human Consumption from the European Union, MEADEEIC.EEC, 30 September 2004*
- *Cervine (Deer) Meat for Human Consumption from New Caledonia, MEADEEIC.NCA, 13 February 2003*
- *Cattle Meat Products for Human Consumption from Vanuatu, MEABEEIC.VAN, 17 September 2004*
- *Sheep and Goat Meat Products for Human Consumption from Chile, MEASAGIC.CHI, 25 May 2000*
- *Sheep and Goat Meat for Human Consumption from the European Union, MEASHGIC.EEC, 4 October 2004*
- *Bovine Blood Dried for Human Consumption from Canada and the USA, EDIBLOIC.NAM, 4 November 2014*
- *Frozen Goat/Sheep Runners from Australia, MEARUNIC.AUS, 31 January 2000*
- *New Zealand origin sheep meat/sheep meat products & casings for human consumption from Australia and the United States, MEASHIC.SPE, 01 May 2007*
- *Products manufactured from New Zealand Origin Venison into New Zealand from the USA, MEAVENIC.USA, 26 August 1998*
- *Edible Tallow Products from Australia, EDITALIC.AUS, 20 August 2003*
- *Edible Tallow Products from Canada and the United States of America, EDITALIC.ALL, 20 August 2003*
- *Frozen Goat/Sheep By-products from Canada and the United States of America, INEGSPIC.NAM, 14 March 2001*
- *Spray dried bovine blood products for further processing into animal food from the USA, FODBLOIC.USA, 31 October 2014*
- *Frozen Deer By-Products for Further Processing from Australia, INEDEEIC.AUS, 28 January 2000*
- *Frozen Deer By-Products for Further Processing from New Caledonia, INEDEEIC.NCA, 28 January 2000*
- *Frozen Inedible Deer By-Products for Further Processing from Norway, INEDEEIC.NOR, 28 January 2000*
- *Inedible Beef Serosa for Further Processing from Australia, INESERIC.AUS, 31 January 2000*
- *Frozen Sheep Pituitary Glands for Further Processing from Australia (South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia South of 26° Latitude South), INESHPIIC.AUS, 13 December 2000*
- *Inedible Tallow from Australia, INETALIC.AUS, 12 January 2004*
- *Inedible Tallow from Canada, INETALIC.CAN, 6 June 2003*
- *Inedible Tallow from the United States of America, INETALIC.USA, 12 January 2004*
- *Deer/Elk Velvet from Approved Countries, DEEVVTIC.ALL, 14 March 2001*
- *Deer/Elk Velvet from Australia, DEEVVTIC.AUS, 26 June 2001*

Schedule 3 - List of IHSs containing ruminant meat products and non-ruminant meat products

- *Lard and Rendered Fats for Human Consumption from the European Community, MEATALIC.EEC, 13 October 2004*
- *Lard, Rendered Fats and Oils, and Fish Oil Not for Human Consumption from the European Union, INETALIC.EEC, 11 October 2004*
- *Spray-Dried Cattle, Deer, Goat, Pig and Sheep Blood Products for Further Processing into Animal Food from Australia, FODBLOIC.AUS, 15 March 2000*
- *Frozen Raw Pet Food (Derived from Cattle, Deer, Goats, Horses, Sheep) for Further Processing from Australia, FODPETIC.AUS, 28 January 2000*
- *Frozen Animal By-Products (Derived from Bovines, Goats, Horses, Pigs, and Sheep) for Further Processing from Australia, INEPHPIC.AUS, 28 January 2000*
- *Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Deer, Horse and Pig By-Products Derived from Category 3 Material only, for Pharmaceutical Use, Technical Use or Petfood from the European Community, INERMLIC.EEC, 11 October 2004*
- *Sausage Casings for Human Consumption from Australia, MEACASIC.AUS, 31 January 2000*
- *Natural Casings (Porcine/Ovine/Caprine) for Human Consumption from the European Union, MEACASIC.EU, 28 June 2012*

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Schedule 4 – 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.

CTO Direction

Chief Technical Officer 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.

Fresh Meat

Meat that has not undergone any preserving process other than chilling or freezing. This includes meat that is vacuum-wrapped or wrapped in controlled atmosphere.

GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice)

A Competent Authority approved food control operation aimed at ensuring that products are consistently manufactured to a specified quality appropriate to their intended use. It thus has two complementary and interacting components; the manufacturing operation itself and the control system and procedures.

HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point)

A system that identifies, evaluates and controls hazards that are significant for food safety.

Meat

All parts of an animal that are intended for, or have been judged as safe and suitable for, human consumption. This includes skeletal muscle, offal, fat, bone, blood and skin, and excludes milk.

Meat Products

Products resulting from the processing of fresh meat or from the processing of such processed products, so that the product no longer has the characteristics of fresh meat. The following are not regarded as meat products: meat which has undergone only cold treatment, or fresh meat, which has been minced or seasoned.

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.

Ruminant

Refers to sheep, goats, deer (family *Cervidae*), cattle (*Bos taurus*, *B. indicus*), buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*, *Syncerus caffer nanus*), bison (*Bison bison*, *B. bonasus*), and any of their hybrids.

The Code

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

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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