

ANIMALS

REPORTS FROM MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES: INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL TRADE

RISK ANALYSIS

The Animals and Aquatic Risk Analysis Team produces science-based risk analyses for border and post-border activities. The primary focus of the team is the analysis of biological risks posed by imported goods. The team also reviews assessments done by other teams and by external consultants.

The standard process in drafting risk analyses includes internal and external expert peer review, with the draft risk analysis including options for risk management for the identified hazards, but not risk management recommendations. Draft risk analyses are released for public consultation alongside import health standards, which are subsequently developed from their content.

Risk analysis work during 2012 included:

Pig semen: In March 2012, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) released a draft import health standard (IHS) for the importation of pig semen into New Zealand from all countries. This was developed from the 2011 draft import risk analysis (IRA) for pig semen from Australia, the USA, Canada, the European Union and Norway. The 2011 draft IRA identified six organisms of potential concern in porcine semen (blue eye disease virus, foot and mouth disease virus, Nipah virus, Teschovirus serotype 1, Venezuelan encephalitis virus, and vesicular exanthema virus) but did not assess the risk due to these since Australia, the USA, Canada, the European Union, and Norway claim freedom from these diseases.

Following stakeholder consultation on the draft IHS for the importation of porcine semen into New Zealand, the IRA for porcine semen imported from all countries was finalised in December 2012.

Live parrots: Live psittacine imports from Australia and England have previously been permitted into New Zealand. In 1997 these imports ceased but aviculturists and individual pet owners continue to submit requests and bird smuggling remains an ongoing concern. Illegal importations have no sanitary controls and therefore represent an unmanaged biosecurity risk.

Historically, large numbers of exotic birds have been imported into New Zealand with little consideration of biosecurity issues. These importations have resulted in the establishment of free-living populations, as well as many species kept in captivity. It is likely that some of the potential hazards considered in this risk analysis already

entered New Zealand with these imports and that the low level of disease surveillance allows them to remain undetected.

An IRA completed in 2012 examined the biosecurity risks posed by infectious or parasitic agents when importing live psittacine birds from any country. From a list of 194 preliminary hazards, 24 organisms or diseases of concern were identified that required further consideration. Of these, 16 were identified as potential hazards and subjected to a risk assessment. As a result of this, a non-negligible risk has been identified with the following:

- Newcastle disease virus;
- avian paramyxoviruses 2 and 5;
- highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses;
- psittacine herpesvirus;
- psittacinepox virus;
- avian reovirus;
- West Nile virus;
- avian bornavirus;
- *Bordetella avium*;
- *Coxiella burnetii*;
- *Salmonella* Gallinarum-Pullorum and *S. arizonae*;
- *Plasmodium* spp;
- *Leukocytozoon* spp;
- helminths; and
- ectoparasites.

Chicken and duck meat: The biosecurity risks associated with the importation of chilled or frozen meat and meat products derived from chickens (*Gallus gallus*) or ducks (Pekin ducks, *Anas platyrhynchos domestica* or *Anas peking*, Muscovy ducks *Cairina moschata*, or a hybrid of these known as mulard or moulard ducks) have been examined.

After MPI's Animal Imports Team has analysed the options available and proposed draft measures for the effective management of identified risks, these will be presented in a draft IHS that will be released together with the draft import risk analysis and a risk management proposal summarising the options analysis and the rationale for the proposed measures. This package of documents will be released for a six-week period of stakeholder consultation, and submissions will be reviewed before a final IHS is issued.

Red meat: Drafting of the red meat risk analysis began in July 2011. This analysis is limited to the description of biosecurity risks from disease-causing organisms associated with the importation of meat and meat products derived from ruminants and swine. The scope in regard to ruminants is restricted to sheep, goats, cattle, buffaloes and deer. The definition of swine includes all varieties of the species *Sus scrofa*. With respect to commodity types, the risk analysis covers offal, plus the OIE definitions of meat (“all edible parts of an animal”), meat products (“meat that has been subjected to a treatment irreversibly modifying its organoleptic and physicochemical characteristics”) and fresh meat (which includes frozen, chilled, minced and mechanically recovered meat).

It is anticipated that the risk analysis will be completed in 2013. Once finalised, it will provide the basis for updating several IHSs, including imported pet foods and other products containing animal tissues.

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Animal imports

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Animal Imports Team is responsible for developing and amending Import Health Standards (IHSs) that outline the biosecurity import requirements for live animals, germplasm and animal products. The team also provides advice to the public and technical advice to staff at the border.

Some IHSs require that the animal or animal product be accompanied by a current permit to import, to assist with clearance at the border. The Animal Imports Team is also responsible for issuing these permits, and 2708 permits were issued in 2012 (**Table 1**). Note that the number of permits is not necessarily related to the volume of trade: for example, one permit might be issued for several horses.

Numbers of live animal and germplasm imports in 2012 are listed in **Table 2**. These are estimates based on importers’ stated intentions and may differ from the numbers actually imported.

TABLE 1: NUMBER OF IMPORT PERMITS ISSUED BY ANIMAL IMPORTS TEAM, 2012

CATEGORY	PRODUCT TYPE	2012
Animal product	Animal feed	25
	Animal product	103
	Bee	102
	Dairy	5
	Dairy/meat samples	1
	Egg	22
	Equine	3
	Fertiliser	4
	Fibre	11
	Fish	10
	Hides/skins	9
	Meat	13
	Meat/dairy/poultry/fish	1
	Porcine	18
	Poultry	1
	Semen extender	2
Tissue	0	
Wool	4	
	Total	334
Biologicals	Biologicals – general	440
	Biologicals – restricted Organisms	243
		3
	Total	686
Embryos	Bovidae	23
	Laboratory animals	0
	Ovine	0
	Total	23
Live animals	Birds	1
	Bird – Q	0
	Bovine	3
	Butterfly	3
	Camelid	10
	Caprine	7
	Dog/cat	38
	Dog/cat – quarantine	1 069
	Equine	23
	Equine – Q	1
	Fish	9
	Hatching eggs	2
	Insect	7
	Invertebrate	40
	Laboratory animals	43
	Marine invertebrates	9
	Ovine	7
	Rabbit	3
Rodent	1	
Zoological	21	
	Total	1 297
Semen	Bee	0
	Bovine	109
	Canine	2
	Caprine	0
	Cervine	0
	Equine	9
	Ovine	9
	Porcine	1
	Total	130
Transit	All	238
	Total permits issues	2 708

TABLE 2: LIVE ANIMAL AND SEMEN IMPORTS BY SPECIES IN 2012

SPECIES	ADULT/JUVENILE	DECEASED	EGG	EMBRYO	LARVAE	PUPAE	SEMEN
Alpaca	124						
Aquatic	8 780	100					
Avian			30 633				
Bovine	8			657			246 096
Caprine	33						100
Cat	1 267						
Chinchilla	4						
Circus/zoo	4						
Dog	2 953	7					718
Donkey	7						
Equine	1 229						7 538
Fish	12 607			1 601			
Gastropod	2						
Invertebrate	3 084	79			301	2 740	
Laboratory animal	5						
Lepidoptera	1 566					133 629	
Mouse	819						
Ovine	57						3 970
Porcine							779
Rabbit	27						
Rat	99						
Reptile	2						
Spider	207						
Unknown	49						200
Total	32 933	186	30 633	2 258	301	136 369	259 401

Following is a summary of the new or amended IHSs issued in 2012.

BOVINE SEMEN AND EMBRYOS

New veterinary certificates under the IHSs for Bovine Embryos and Semen (27 June 2011) continue to be negotiated. A veterinary certificate to import bovine semen from Norway and veterinary certificates to import bovine semen and embryos from Canada and the European Union were finalised during 2012. The new veterinary certificates were transitioned into use and the IHSs that they replaced have been revoked.

PIG MEAT

The IHSs for pig meat from the US, Canada, the EU and the state of Sonora in Mexico were amended and issued as final on 18 March 2011. NZPork is challenging MPI's decision to issue these IHSs for pig meat, pig meat products and by-products, which permit importation of consumer-ready cuts of uncooked pork from countries where porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) is present.

On 28 June 2012 the High Court granted further interim relief orders, which will be in place until the appeal is heard. While these interim orders are in place, introduction of the IHS issued on 18 March 2011 will be stayed, meaning that as of 28 June 2012 it is not possible to import consumer-ready cuts of raw pork from countries where PRRS is present.

BUFFALO AND CATTLE FROM AUSTRALIA

The IHS for buffalo and cattle from Australia was amended on 1 July 2012 and requires the application of both National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) scheme ear tags and MPI ear tags to buffalo or cattle prior to entry into pre-export isolation in Australia.

IMPORTING HEAT-TREATED MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU directive 1774/2002 has been replaced by EU directive 1069/2009. This IHS was updated and issued on 28 June 2012 to incorporate this change.

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR NATURAL CASINGS (PORCINE/OVINE/CAPRINE) FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU directive 1774/2002 has been replaced by EU directive 1069/2009. This IHS was updated and issued on 28 June 2012 to incorporate this change.

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR ZOO RODENTS FROM AUSTRALIA, THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This IHS was developed to allow the import of African crested porcupine, Brazilian agouti, capybara and Patagonian mara from Australia, the EU and the US. It was issued on 6 August 2012, and replaces a previous standard for porcupines from the United Kingdom.

Exports of live animals and germplasm

The major live animal and animal germplasm exports and their destinations in 2012 are presented in **Table 3**.

Table 4 compares volumes of live animal and germplasm exports by commodity since 2005.

TABLE 3: VOLUME OF LIVE ANIMAL AND GERMLASM EXPORTS TO VARIOUS REGIONS IN 2012

	AFRICA	ASIA	AUSTRALIA	CANADA	CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA	EUROPE	MIDDLE EAST	PACIFIC ISLANDS	UNITED STATES	TOTAL
Cats & dogs	62	394	4 492	90	21	682	29	104	277	6 151
Canine semen	0	2	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	41
Live horses	3	816	1973	0	0	57	9	0	28	2 886
Equine semen	0	0	3 324	0	0	0	0	0	0	3 324
Live cattle	0	39 636	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39 636
Live deer	0	0	0	0	60	5	0	0	0	65
Live sheep	0	20	350	0	15	36	0	0	0	421
Bovine semen	171 089	4 626	169 196	1 316	420 548	278 430	0	495	114 755	1 160 455
Caprine semen	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	50
Ovine semen	0	0	5 077	0	2 194	0	0	0	0	7 271
Cervine semen	0	0	220	0	0	0	0	0	0	220
Bovine embryos	0	0	104	0	1 456	0	0	90	151	1 801
Caprine embryos	0	0	0	0	50	0	75	0	0	125
Poultry (day-old chicks)	3 348	413 372	0	0	0	0	0	719 810	0	1 136 530
Poultry (hatching eggs)	0	103 656	0	0	0	0	145 620	2 116 190	0	2 365 466
Bee packages (kg)	0	0	0	2 119	0	315	0	0	0	2 434
Bees (queen & bumble)	0	0	0	5 852	0	490	0	0	0	6 342
Ferrets	0	374	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	374
Live alpacas & llamas	0	323	1	0	0	132	0	0	0	456
Other birds	0	404	20	1	0	66	0	0	1	492
Zoo animals	0	8	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	28

TABLE 4: COMPARISON OF LIVE ANIMAL AND GERMLASM EXPORTS FROM 2005 TO 2012

SPECIES/YEAR	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Bees (packages (kg), queen and bumble)	8 776	37 180	37 523	34 621	27 435	20 387	18 520	20 117
Bovine embryos	1 801	950	943	1 077	915	574	187	713
Bovine semen	1 160 455	1 085 082	1 073 877	1 237 044	785 939	716 865	680 143	785 217
Canine semen	41	12	166	56	48	3	97	27
Cats & dogs	6 151	5 873	4 247	3 999	5 051	4 797	4 216	3 805
Cervine semen	220	275	2 590	3 001	1 833	390	583	*
Equine semen	3 324	2 362	2 670	5 195	4 214	3 903	4 605	4 506
Ferrets	374	760	825	1 397	1 801	2 660	3 449	3 908
Live alpacas & llamas	456	404	198	375	353	123	76	*
Live cattle	39 636	30 499	16 150	12 847	17 075	25 909	31 266	42 677
Live deer	65	31	15	46	115	159	1 524	68
Live goats	*	979	58	190	6	349	1 664	14
Live horses	2 886	3 308	2 292	2 469	2 512	2 562	2 990	2 820
Live sheep	421	177	307	124	118	34 894	983	4 623
Ovine embryos	*	320	114	230	1 652	3 751	6 268	8 773
Ovine semen	7 271	11 819	4 954	10 374	19 921	12 365	17 465	25 720
Poultry (day-old chicks)	1 136 530	1 342 542	1 324 543	1 098 192	854 678	867 573	1 696 320	959 221
Poultry (hatching eggs)	2 365 466	3 173 403	5 185 128	3 860 755	5 275 056	7 471 678	9 021 184	6 433 260

Number of export certificates issued

During 2012 there were 87 notices containing export requirements and the corresponding export certificate templates were determined and notified under the Animal Products Act 1999.

Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia

During 2012 the Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia was significantly updated. The programme now includes “Approved Practices” and regular audits to ensure a consistent level of certification.

Official Assurance Programme: Requirements for Export of Live Animals and Germplasm (OAP)

During the last annual report it was indicated that the OAP document would be replaced by Codes of Practice during 2012. The development of Codes of Practice acceptable to MPI and the live animal and germplasm

export industries has taken much longer than anticipated. It is now expected that the final transition to the Codes of Practice will be made in 2013.

Animal Exports Team

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