

Import Health Standard
Commodity sub-class: Fresh fruit/vegetables

Capsicum
(*Capsicum annuum*)

From
Australia

ISSUED
Issuance: 24 July 2023

Commencement

This import health standard comes into force on 24 July 2023.

Revocation

This import health standard revokes and replaces *Commodity sub-class: Fresh fruit/vegetables Capsicum (Capsicum annuum) From Australia* and all prior amendments to that standard.

The amendment history to this import health standard is set out in Appendix 2.

Issuing authority

This import health standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 to incorporate amendments made pursuant to sections 24B and 166A of that Act.

Dated at Wellington, 24 July 2023.

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD: FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES

Capsicum (*Capsicum annuum*) from Australia.

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Part A. Background

Scope

This document describes the requirements to be met to enable biosecurity clearance to be given for fresh capsicum (*Capsicum annuum*) for human consumption imported into New Zealand from Australia.

Commodity description

The commodity description “capsicum” for human consumption is defined as commercially produced bell pepper capsicums of any colour with calyx and peduncle, but without stems, leaves, roots or any other plant parts.

Definitions

The definitions of relevant phytosanitary terms used in this standard are consistent with the terms stated in the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms* (2012), produced by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), unless the context requires otherwise or the definition is stated below.

Import health standard (IHS) – a document issued pursuant to section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993 on behalf of the Director General, permitting entry to New Zealand of a specific product under certain conditions.

ISPM – International standards for phytosanitary measures.

MPI - the Ministry for Primary Industries which is responsible for regulatory biosecurity functions.

Unit - one capsicum fruit.

Regulated pest - means those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected.

Outcome

The agreed pre-shipment phytosanitary measures for specific regulated pests have been undertaken and the capsicums are free of all regulated pests.

The specific regulated pests as listed in [Part C](#) have undergone effective pre-shipment phytosanitary measures. Pre-export visual inspection is required for all regulated pests in [Part E](#).

At a 95% confidence level, not more than 0.5% of the units in the consignment are infested (this equates to an acceptance level of zero units infested by regulated pests in a sample size of 600 units).

Verification activities associated with this performance measure are found in [Appendix 1](#).

Equivalence

MPI may consider a pre-export application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure, different from that provided for in this standard, to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the current measures in this standard. Equivalence will be considered with reference to ISPM 24: *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

Part B. General import requirements for all fresh fruit and vegetables for consumption

The IHS 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand* contains the phytosanitary requirements that must be met for all fresh fruit and vegetable commodities that are allowed to be imported into New Zealand. IHS 152.02 outlines transit requirements, inspections on arrival in New Zealand and actions taken on pest interceptions.

IHS 152.02 can be found at the MPI website (<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1147-importation-and-clearance-of-fresh-fruit-and-vegetables-into-new-zealand-import-health-standard>).

Part C. Additional requirements for capsicums from Australia

Phytosanitary measures

Australia's National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) is required to undertake specific phytosanitary measures that are effective against specific Risk group 2 (RG2) regulated pests and Risk group 3 (RG3) fruit fly species of economic significance to New Zealand, prior to the commodity arriving in New Zealand. Phytosanitary certification will need to attest to this accordingly.

Risk group 2 regulated pests:

- *Bemisia tabaci* (vector)
- *Conogethes punctiferalis**
- *Phyllophaga* spp.
- *Thrips palmi* (vector)

*Specific pre-export phytosanitary measures for the RG2 pest *Conogethes punctiferalis* are required; either in-field pest control activities throughout the production season; **or** irradiation at a minimum dose of 289 Gy; **or** methyl bromide fumigation at 18 g/m³ for 5 hours (or a concentration time (CT) product of 77 g·h/m³ at ≥ 73% retention) at 18 °C at a maximum of 33% chamber capacity; **or** methyl bromide fumigation at 32 g/m³ for 2

hours at 21 °C at a maximum of 50% chamber capacity.

Risk group 3 regulated pests:

- *Bactrocera aquilonis*
- *Bactrocera bryoniae*
- *Bactrocera cucumis*
- *Bactrocera jarvisi*
- *Bactrocera neohumeralis*
- *Bactrocera tryoni*
- *Ceratitis capitata*

Specific pre-export phytosanitary measures for RG3 regulated pests are required: Appendix 2 (pest free area); **or** Appendix 3 (methyl bromide fumigation); **or** Appendix 3 (methyl bromide fumigation) **and** Appendix 10 (field control programmes); **or** Appendix 12 (irradiation); these measures are to be carried out in accordance with IHS 152.02 and the bilateral quarantine arrangement.

The application of Appendix 12 (irradiation) must also be carried out in accordance with ISPM 18: *Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure* (2011); at the following irradiation doses:

- RG3 regulated pests with a minimum dose of 150 Gy
- Other IHS regulated arthropod pests¹ with a minimum dose of 400 Gy

Inspection of the consignment

Australia's NPPO is required to sample and visually inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all regulated pests including those listed in [Part E](#). Where Appendix 12 (irradiation) is the phytosanitary measure to be undertaken, inspection will occur pre or post treatment. Where a regulated arthropod pest is detected on the commodity and Appendix 12 (irradiation) is the intended pre-export phytosanitary treatment, appropriate irradiation dosages must be applied by Australia's NPPO. Alternative approved corrective actions may be conducted (e.g. methyl bromide fumigation), or the fruit will not be exported to New Zealand.

Inspection will occur after the following phytosanitary measures have been undertaken: Appendix 2; **or** Appendix 3.

¹ These regulated pests include those listed on this IHS that are not known to vector diseases.

When no regulated pests are detected or corrective actions have taken place and all preshipment requirements of the IHS have been met, a phytosanitary certificate will be issued in accordance with ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary certification system* (2011) and ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary certificates* (2011). If organisms are found which are not listed in [Part E](#), Australia's NPPO must establish their regulatory status by consulting the Official New Zealand Pest Register (ONZPR), online at <https://onzpr.mpi.govt.nz/>. If an organism is not listed in ONZPR, Australia's NPPO must contact MPI to establish the regulatory status of the organism.

Part D. Phytosanitary certification

Activities required for phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by Australia's NPPO must accompany all capsicum consignments exported to New Zealand. The phytosanitary certificate must be in English and must be an original. Bilingual certificates are acceptable as long as English is one of the languages. The phytosanitary certificate also requires the following certification statement as aligned to ISPM 12 (2011);

“This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.”

Before a phytosanitary certificate is issued, Australia's NPPO must be satisfied that the following activities have been undertaken.

The capsicums have:

- (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from regulated pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries

AND

- (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those Risk group 2 (RG2) regulated pests specified by NZ MPI.

AND

- (iii) been treated by irradiation at a minimum absorbed dose of 289 Gy for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (iv) been managed using in-field controls for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (v) been fumigated with methyl bromide to achieve a minimum concentration time product (CT) of 77 g·h/m³ and minimum concentration of 13.2 g/m³ at ≥18 °C for 5 hours for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (vi) been fumigated with methyl bromide at 32 g/m³ for 2 hours at 21 °C for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

AND

- (vii) been treated in accordance with Appendix 2; **or** Appendix 3; **or** Appendix 3 and Appendix 10; **or** Appendix 12 of the arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries and the Australian Department of Agriculture, concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from Australia.

Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate

If satisfied that the pre-shipment phytosanitary measures have been undertaken effectively, Australia's NPPO must include the following additional declarations on the phytosanitary certificate:

The capsicums in this consignment have:

- (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from regulated pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

NOTE: Compliance with this additional declaration is not necessary for arthropods if the Australian NPPO certifies export of this consignment under Appendix 12.

The consignment may contain live (but infertile, inactive or unable to emerge from pupation) regulated arthropod pests.

AND

- (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those Risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MPI.

AND

- (iii) been treated by irradiation at a minimum absorbed dose of 289 Gy for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (iv) been managed using in-field controls for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (v) been fumigated with methyl bromide to achieve a minimum concentration time product (CT) of 77 g·h/m³ and minimum concentration of 13.2 g/m³ at ≥18 °C for 5 hours for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

OR

- (vi) been fumigated with methyl bromide at 32 g/m³ for 2 hours at 21 °C for *Conogethes punctiferalis*

AND

- (vii) been treated in accordance with Appendix 2; **or** Appendix 3; **or** Appendix 3 and Appendix 10; **or** Appendix 12 of the arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries and the Australian Department of Agriculture, concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from Australia.

NOTE : Full details of the irradiation or fumigation treatment, including dosage, must be included in the “Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment” area of the phytosanitary certificate or as an endorsed attachment to the phytosanitary certificate.

Part E. Regulated pest list for capsicums from Australia

Scientific name	Organism type	Common name	Actions on interception
<i>Alternaria alternata</i> f. sp. <i>lycopersici</i>	Fungi	-	2
<i>Cercospora capsici</i>	Fungi	cercospora spot	2
<i>Cladosporium</i> sp.	Fungi	cladosporium mould	2
<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>vasinfectum</i>	Fungi	fusarium wilt	2
<i>Glomerella cingulata</i> var. <i>minor</i> (anamorph <i>Colletotrichum gloeosporioides</i> var. <i>minor</i>)	Fungi	anthracnose	2
<i>Nectria haematococca</i> var. <i>breviconia</i>	Fungi	dry rot	2
<i>Peronospora tabacina</i>	Fungi	downy mildew	2
<i>Phytophthora capsici</i>	Fungi	buckeye rot	2
<i>Pythium aphanidermatum</i>	Fungi	cottony leak	2
<i>Stemphylium solani</i>	Fungi	stemphylium spot	2
<i>Aleurodicus dispersus</i>	Insect	spiralling whitefly	2 or 4
<i>Atherigona orientalis</i>	Insect	muscid fly	2 or 4
<i>Austroasca viridigrisea</i>	Insect	vegetable leafhopper	2 or 4
<i>Bactrocera aquilonis</i>	Insect	Northern Territory fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera bryoniae</i>	Insect	fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera cucumis</i>	Insect	cucumber fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera jarvisi</i>	Insect	Jarvis' fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera neohumeralis</i>	Insect	lesser Queensland fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bactrocera tryoni</i>	Insect	Queensland fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Bemisia tabaci</i> (vect.)	Insect	sweet potato whitefly	2a
<i>Ceratitis capitata</i>	Insect	Mediterranean fruit fly	3 or 4
<i>Chloropulvinaria psidii</i>	Insect	guava scale	2 or 4
<i>Conogethes punctiferalis</i>	Insect	yellow peach moth	2a or 4
<i>Cryptoblabes gnidiella</i>	Insect	Christmas berry webworm	2 or 4
<i>Dindymus versicolor</i>	Insect	harlequin bug	2 or 4
<i>Dirioxa pornia</i>	Insect	island fruit fly	2 or 4
<i>Dysmicoccus brevipes</i>	Insect	pineapple mealybug	2 or 4
<i>Frankliniella schultzei</i> (vect.)	Insect	tomato thrips	2
<i>Gonocephalum carpentariae</i>	Insect	false wireworm	2 or 4
<i>Helicoverpa assulta</i>	Insect	cape gooseberry budworm	2 or 4
<i>Helicoverpa punctigera</i>	Insect	oriental tobacco budworm	2 or 4
<i>Icerya seychellarum</i>	Insect	Seychelles scale	2 or 4
<i>Leptocoris mitellatus</i>	Insect	Leptocoris bug	2 or 4
<i>Nysius vinitor</i>	Insect	Rutherglen bug	2 or 4
<i>Orosius argentatus</i> (vect.)	Insect	common brown leafhopper	2
<i>Orosius orientalis</i> (vect.)	Insect	common brown leafhopper	2
<i>Phthorimaea operculella</i> (strain)	Insect	potato tuber moth	2 or 4

<i>Phyllophaga</i> spp.	Insect	crown girdler (Scarab beetle)	2a or 4
<i>Planococcus minor</i>	Insect	Pacific mealybug	2 or 4
<i>Plautia affinis</i>	Insect	green stink bug	2 or 4
<i>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</i>	Insect	white peach scale	2 or 4
<i>Pulvinaria urticae</i>	Insect	cottony maple scale	2 or 4
<i>Scirtothrips dorsalis</i> (vect.)	Insect	chilli thrips	2
<i>Spodoptera littoralis</i>	Insect	beet armyworm	2 or 4
<i>Thrips palmi</i> (vect.)	Insect	palm thrips	2a
<i>Trialeurodes vaporariorum</i> (vect.)	Insect	greenhouse whitefly	2
<i>Unaspis citri</i>	Insect	citrus snow scale	2 or 4
<i>Eutetranychus orientalis</i>	Mite	pear leaf blister mite	2 or 4
Tomato big bud phytoplasma [VO]	Phytoplasma	-	2
Potato spindle tuber viroid [VO]	Viroid	-	2
Capsicum chlorosis virus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tobacco leaf curl bigeminivirus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tomato torrado virus [VO]	Virus	-	2
Tomato yellow leaf curl virus [VO]	Virus	-	2

VO = vectored organism

Vect. = vector

Actions on interception

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Removal of trash – organisms are associated with other plant parts and/or soil. |
| 2 | Treat, resort, reship or destroy. |
| 2a | Treat, reship or destroy. Suspend pathway. |
| 3 | Reship or destroy. Suspend pathway. |
| 4 | Action dependent on pest interception and irradiation dosage certified as the pre-export measure. |

Note: The suspension of the pathway could be at the grower, packhouse, treatment facility, state or country level, depending on the significance of the pest interception.

Appendix 1: Verification activities on arrival in New Zealand

Verification inspection on arrival in New Zealand

MPI will inspect documentation on arrival in New Zealand. In addition, MPI may inspect a sample from each lot on arrival in New Zealand to verify requirements of the IHS have been met.

Actions undertaken upon interception of irradiated regulated pests

As the required response of regulated arthropod pests that have undergone the irradiation treatment is prevention of adult emergence or adult sterility (not mortality) a possibility exists that live (but unfertile, inactive or unable to emerge from pupation) regulated arthropods may be present in a consignment.

In accordance with section 8.3 of ISPM 18 (2011) when mortality is not the required response, the detection of live stages of regulated pests in import inspection should not be considered to represent treatment failure resulting in non-compliance unless evidence exists to indicate that the integrity of the treatment system was inadequate.

MPI reserves the right for an analysis to be conducted on the detected regulated pest to verify treatment efficacy.

Appendix 2: Document history

This document history lists amendments since 2019.

Version date	Section changed	Change description
15 March 2019	Part C; Part D	Updated irradiation dose for <i>Conogethes punctiferalis</i>
17 December 2021	Part C; Part D	Removed dimethoate dip as a phytosanitary measure
24 July 2023	Part C; Part D; Part E	Added additional methyl bromide treatment schedule; removed <i>Bactrocera frauenfeldi</i> , <i>B. kraussi</i> and <i>B. musae</i> from the regulated pest list; and listed <i>B. bryoniae</i> as an RG3 pest