Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Import Health Standard

Equids

LIVEQUID.GEN

[Document Date]

Issued under the Biosecurity Act 1993

New Zealand Government

TITLE

Import Health Standard: *Equids*

COMMENCEMENT

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

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 equids into New Zealand.

The identified risk organisms associated with equids that are managed by this IHS are:

- African horse sickness virus
- *Bacillus anthracis*
- Borna disease virus
- *Burkholderia mallei*
- *Cochliomyia hominivorax* and *Chrysomya bezziana*
- Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis viruses
- Ecto- and endoparasites
- Equine arteritis virus
- Equine herpesvirus-1 (abortigenic and paralytic forms)
- Equine infectious anaemia virus
- Equine influenza virus
- Hendra virus
- *Hypoderma bovis* and *Hypoderma lineatum*
- Japanese encephalitis virus
- Nipah virus
- Rabies virus
- *Salmonella abortus equi*
- *Taylorella equigenitalis*
- *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi*
- *Trypanosoma equiperdum*
- *Trypanosoma evansi*
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis virus

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 applies to importers of equids.

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 equids 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 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 equid.

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.

Transitional facility

Following biosecurity authorisation being given under section 25 of the Act, the equids (where applicable) will proceed directly to the transitional facility named on the import permit.

The documentation will be checked to ensure it meets all requirements noted under general requirements in Part 1 and specified requirements (veterinary certification) in Part 2 of this IHS.

Biosecurity clearance

A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the equids 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.

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) All equipment entering New Zealand with the equids must comply with the *Import Health Standard for the Importation into New Zealand of Equipment Associated with Animals or Water*.
b) Containers made of timber must meet the requirements of the following: *IHS: Woodware from All Countries*.

Trade Single Window (TSW)

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 horses (*Equus caballus*), donkeys (*Equus asinus*), and mules (*E. caballus x E. asinus*) from countries with approved export control and certification 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: http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/.
b) The OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Code*), available at the OIE Website: http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/.
c) The *International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations (LAR)*: a copy is available for reading, free of charge, at MPI, Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, Wellington.
d) The *Australian Marine Orders* Part 43, Issue 6 (equivalent to the *New Zealand Marine Rules* Part 24C), available free of charge: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2006L03643.

(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.

Guidance 1.2

- Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements. This is done because technical documents are too large or impractical to include in the IHS.
- Where the IHS states that section 142O(1) of the Act does not apply, this means that importers need to refer to the most recent version of any standards, guidelines or lists that are incorporated by reference in the IHS.

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) At least 5 working days prior to the scheduled time of arrival:

a) Advanced notification of arrival must be given. Phone numbers and email addresses can be found on http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/live-animals/horses/steps-to-importing/ under Step 2.

b) A booking must be made at the airport/seaport compound transitional facility for the scheduled time of arrival. The importer must ensure that, prior to the place of first arrival (POFA) transitional facility booking, a contingency plan is in place as required by clause 1.12.4.

1.4.1 Equids requiring post-arrival quarantine (PAQ)

(1) In order to obtain biosecurity clearance, equids requiring PAQ must:

a) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.6-1.10, and 1.13 of *Part 1*, *Part 2, and Part 4*; and
b) Be imported from a country that the 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 1.12.2, has been agreed by the CTO, and details the measures in *Part 1*, and *Part 2* that the importer will meet; and
d) Be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.11; and
e) Be accompanied by the laboratory and vaccination reports as required by clause 1.12.3; and
f) Be accompanied by a contingency plan as required by clause 1.12.4.

1.4.2 Equids cleared at the border

(1) Equids that do not require PAQ will be inspected by an MPI Veterinarian at the border and given biosecurity clearance provided the following have been met:

a) Meet the requirements of clauses 1.6-1.10 of *Part 1*, and *Part 2*; and
b) Be imported from a country that the 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 1.12.2, has been agreed by the CTO, and details the measures in *Part 1* and *Part 2* that the importer will meet; and
d) Be accompanied by an import permit where required by clause 1.11; and
e) Be accompanied by the laboratory and vaccination reports as required by clause 1.12.3; and
f) Be accompanied by a contingency plan as required by clause 1.12.4.

Guidance 1.4

- POFAs currently approved to accept equids:
  i) Auckland Airport Compound Transitional Facility
  ii) Auckland Airport Tasman Cargo Airlines Transitional Facility
  iii) Tauranga Port Transitional Facility
- Bookings at the port transitional facility cannot conflict with other imports/exports (there is a stand-down period of 48 hours following the importation of equids requiring post-arrival quarantine and the import of other equids).
- The number of equids imported cannot exceed space in the port transitional facility to ensure no animals leave before the final animal is inspected and cleared.
- See guidance document for guidance on contingency plans.

1.5 Exporting country systems and certification

(1) Importers may import equids only if a CTO is satisfied, on the basis of evidence, that the Veterinary Services of the exporting country are capable of ensuring that equids 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 equids from that exporting country:

a) The ability of the exporting country's Competent Authority to verify the animal health status of equids 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 equine 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 equids imported from that country can meet the requirements of this IHS.

Guidance 1.5

- 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 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.
- 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 equids.
- 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.
- The following MPI guidance document is available for Competent Authorities of exporting countries, outlining the information that may be required for recognition of export controls and certification systems: http://mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/14926-guidance-document-recognition-of-export-controls-and-certification-systems-for-animals-and-animal-products-draft-for-consultation.

1.6 Identification

(1) All equids must be permanently identified with an approved microchip.

Guidance 1.6

- See guidance document for further information on microchips.
- Equids can also be accompanied by other documents such as a silhouette or passport to aid in the identification of the equid.

1.7 Pre-export isolation

(1) When required, equids must be held in pre-export isolation (PEI) facilities approved and supervised by the exporting country's Competent Authority and compliant to the requirements set out in *Part 3.*

(2) When equids are to be imported into New Zealand from countries where the diseases listed below are considered present, the duration and type of PEI is stated in brackets:

a) African Horse Sickness (minimum 14, 28, or 40 days PEI [depending on pre-export diagnostic testing] at a MPI-approved and audited vector-proof premises)
b) Cattle tick infected country/zone (minimum 3 day PEI)
c) Equine influenza (minimum 21 day PEI)
d) Japanese encephalitis (minimum 21 day PEI protected from insect vectors)
e) Surra (minimum 21 day PEI protected from insect vectors)
f) VEE, EEE, WEE (minimum 21 day PEI protected from insect vectors)

(3) At the start of PEI, the identification of each equid must be verified.

(4) The PEI period will start when the last equid has joined the consignment in the premises.

(5) During PEI:

a) The PEI premises must be occupied only by equids of the same export consignment;
b) Equids must not be naturally mated or artificially inseminated, unless required by the identified risk organism requirements in *Part 2*;
c) Equids must remain free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease and have no contact with animals except those that meet all requirements for import into New Zealand;
d) Equids must be protected from insect vectors where required by the identified risk organism requirements in *Part 2*;
e) A detailed health record, including twice daily temperature check, must be kept for each equid on the premises during the PEI period and it must be available to the supervising Official Veterinarian. An abrupt onset of fever ≥ 39.4 degrees Celsius (≥ 103 degrees Fahrenheit) accompanied by other clinical signs such as loss of appetite, diarrhoea, and nasal discharge must be investigated to conclusion by the Official Veterinarian and subsequently reported to MPI, prior to the export of in-contact animals;
f) MPI must be notified of any illness, injury, deaths, treatments, or other conditions associated with equids in the PEI facility. If any equid in the consignment tests positive to any pre-export test, is removed from the consignment for any reason, or isolation has been breached, MPI must be notified and give clearance for the importation to proceed.

1.8 Pre-export veterinary inspection

(1) Equids must be inspected by an Official Veterinarian within 24 hours of export and be found free of clinical signs of disease, ectoparasites, and seeds, and be fit to travel.

1.9 Diagnostic tests, vaccines and treatment

(1) The microchip identification of each equid must be verified at each required test, vaccine, and/or treatment performed for import purposes.

(2) 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 under this IHS to export equids to New Zealand.

(3) 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*.

(4) All diagnostic tests 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*.

(5) 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 instructions in a country that the CTO has agreed meets the requirements of clause 1.5.

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

(7) Where products required by this IHS have been administered, the product name, manufacturer, active ingredients (where applicable), and the dose and date of the treatment must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

(8) Where vaccines required by this IHS have been administered all vaccine names, whether they are inactivated or modified live virus, and the virus types and strains included in the vaccine, and date of the treatment must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

1.10 Transport

(1) In the case of transport by:

a) Air: the transport facilities and arrangements must meet the relevant requirements published in the *IATA Live Animal Regulations*.
b) Sea: the transport facilities and arrangements must have been inspected by the Competent Authority of the exporting country and meet the requirements of the *Australian Marine Orders Part 43, Issue 6* (which is equivalent to the *New Zealand Marine Rules Part 24C*).

(2) Trans-shipment in any third country may not occur unless it is pre-approved by MPI and recorded on an import permit under section 24D. In the case of equids transiting countries where there is a risk of insect borne pathogens, the air stalls must be covered by insect-proof netting and the cargo hold sprayed with an effective insecticide during transit. The netting must be disinfected after arrival in New Zealand.

(3) No animals other than those that meet the import requirements for entry into New Zealand are permitted to be transported with the equids to the port of departure or on the aircraft or ship.

(4) Combined shipping of equids from multiple countries/locations with equivalent health status must be approved by MPI prior to import and will be recorded on the import permit. Only equids that require post-arrival quarantine can be co-shipped together.

(5) The vehicle in which equids are transported to the port of departure must be cleaned, disinfected and treated with an effective residual insecticide prior to loading the equids. The date of treatment, the chemical(s) used, and the active ingredient(s) must be recorded on the veterinary certificate or a separate attestation as approved by MPI.

(6) The cargo space of all aircraft transporting equids must be disinfected and treated with an effective residual insecticide prior to loading the equids and a treatment certificate must accompany the equids and be available for inspection by an MPI Veterinarian at the port of arrival.

(7) Equids must be loaded into containers that are:

a) New and treated with an effective residual insecticide. The date of treatment, the chemical(s) used, and the active ingredient(s) must be recorded on the veterinary certificate or a separate attestation as approved by MPI; or
b) Cleaned and disinfected with an effective virucidal disinfectant and treated with an effective residual insecticide, prior to loading the equids. The date of treatment, the chemical(s) used, and the active ingredient(s) must be recorded on the veterinary certificate or a separate attestation as approved by MPI.

(8) Only sterile peat, soft board, treated wood shavings, shredded paper, or other inert products may be loaded for use as bedding during transportation. All feed and bedding during transportation must be free from seeds. Any unused feed, bedding, and faecal material that falls from the container must be disposed of as biosecurity waste according to MPI standard *Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods, TFGEN.*

(9) All transport containers used during transport (e.g. airstalls and modified horse shipping containers) must be treated on arrival in New Zealand according to the requirements of the MPI standard *Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods, TFGEN.*

(10) Equids must arrive at an MPI-approved place of first arrival (POFA) for equids and be inspected at the POFA's transitional facility that is approved under the MPI standard *Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods, TFGEN.*

Guidance 1.10

- Approved POFAs can be found on https://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/border-clearance/places-of-first-arrival/.

- POFAs approved to accept equids:
  - Auckland Airport Compound Transitional Facility
  - Auckland Airport Tasman Cargo Airlines Transitional Facility
  - Tauranga Port Transitional Facility
- MPI standard *Transitional Facilities for General Uncleared Risk Goods, TFGEN*.
- See guidance document for more information on transport.

1.11 Import permit

(1) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required prior to the importation of consignments of equids from all countries with the exception of Australia.

(2) An import permit under section 24D of the Act is required prior to the importation of consignments of equids from Australia 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.

Guidance 1.11

- Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz Application forms can be found on the MPI website at: http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/live-animals/horses/forms-and-templates/
- The application form should specify the name and address of the transitional facility in New Zealand approved to facility standard *154.02.13 Low Security Farm Animal Transitional Facilities* (to be amended to *Transitional Facility Standard for Equids, MPI-STD-EQUIDS)* to which the consignment is to proceed following importation (where required).
- Transport time is calculated as the time from port of export to port of import.

1.12 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 1.12.1 to 1.12.4 below.

(2) All documentation that is required by this clause 1.12 to accompany equids must, unless otherwise stated:

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

Guidance for documentation that must accompany goods

- Equids that do not require post-arrival quarantine should submit copies of all documents that are required to accompany the goods to the MPI Veterinarian at the airport/port of arrival as early as possible to avoid issues and delays with border clearance.
- The recommended timeframe for submitting copies of documents is at least 1 working day in advance of departure. It is acceptable for the export certificate to be in a draft form and not signed by the Official Veterinarian of the exporting country, if this has yet to take place. Please email the applicable arrival port:
  - Auckland: liveanimalsauckland@mpi.govt.nz (air freight)
  - Tauranga: Certification.BOP-Wa@mpi.govt.nz (sea freight)

- A Trade Single Window (TSW) lodgement is required to meet both MPI and Customs requirements. The TSW lodgement may be used to as an alternative to also emailing the documents to the MPI Veterinarian, provided the above time frame is met.

1.12.1 Import permit

(1) An import permit (copy acceptable) for a single consignment where required under this IHS.

1.12.2 Veterinary certificate

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

a) A unique consignment identifier
b) The description, species, and microchip transponder number of the equid
c) Name and address of the importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor)
d) Name, signature and contact details of the Official Veterinarian
e) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the general requirements outlined in *Part 1* of this IHS have been met
f) Certification and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian that the relevant requirements outlined in *Part 2* of this IHS have been met
g) Transport container disinfection information
h) All products and vaccines administered to meet specific disease import requirements, including the generic name, active ingredient, dose rate, and date of treatment

Guidance for veterinary certificates

- 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.

1.12.3 Laboratory and vaccination reports

(1) Original laboratory and vaccination reports, or copies of reports endorsed by the Official Veterinarian of all tests and vaccinations required by *Part 2* of this IHS, which must include:

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

1.12.4 Contingency plan

(1) A contingency plan for the following situations:

a) A delay in the unloading of equids from the aircraft or ship at a POFA.
b) For transferring uncleared equids that do not routinely require PAQ to an equine transitional facility approved under *MPI-STD-EQUID* or a POFA transitional facility approved under *TFGEN* clause 4.5.

Guidance 1.12.4

- Contingency plans are not required to be signed by the Official Veterinarian in the exporting country, these plans are for the MPI Veterinarian's use.

1.13 Post-arrival quarantine

(1) When required, equids must be held in PAQ facilities approved by MPI and in accordance with the requirements in *Part 4*. Following biosecurity authorisation being given, equids must proceed directly to the transitional facility named on the import permit and be held there until all biosecurity requirements have been met.

(2) Equids requiring PAQ must be treated in accordance with the requirements in *Part 4.*

(3) When equids are to be imported into New Zealand from countries where the diseases listed below are considered present, the duration and type of PAQ is stated in brackets:

a) Equine infectious anaemia (EIA) if considered by MPI as highly prevalent in the country of export (minimum 7 day PAQ)
b) Equine influenza (minimum 14 day PAQ)
c) Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (minimum 7 day PAQ)
d) Surra (minimum 30 day PAQ protected from insect vectors)

Part 2: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms

(1) Equids must comply with the following measures for identified risk organisms, where required:

2.1 African horse sickness virus

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Infection with African horse sickness virus.*

2.2 Bacillus anthracis (anthrax)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations for equids in the *Code* chapter for *Anthrax.*

2.3 Borna disease virus

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI to be free from Borna disease; or

(2) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, on premises in which no case of Borna disease was reported in the 1 year prior to export.

2.4 *Burkholderia mallei* (glanders)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Glanders.*

2.5 *Cochliomyia hominivorax* and *Chrysomya bezziana* (New World and Old World screwworm)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 21 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from New World and Old World screwworm and where no case of screwworm fly myasis was reported in the 1 year prior to export; or

(2) Equids must meet the recommendations in the Code chapter for *New World screwworm (Cochliomyia hominivorax) and Old World screwworm (Chrysomya bezziana).*

2.6 Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis viruses (EEE/WEE)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from EEE and WEE; or

(2) Equids must meet the recommendations in the Code chapter for *Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)*.

2.7 Ectoparasites (mosquitoes, biting flies, ticks, lice, mites, flesh-eating larvae)

(1) Equids that do not require any PEI must:

a) Be treated within 24-48 hours prior to travel with a product highly effective against ectoparasites and applied in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; and
b) Be thoroughly examined for ectoparasites within 24 hours prior to export under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian. A thorough and systematic approach must be used including a close visual and tactile examination of the ears, false nostrils, under-body areas (axilla, inguinal region, and under the jawbone), perineum, mane and tail; or

(2) Equids that are imported from a cattle tick-infested area and do not require PEI for any other identified risk organisms must:

a) Be thoroughly examined for ticks prior to entry into PEI under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian. A thorough and systematic approach must be used including a close visual and tactile examination of the ears, false nostrils, under-body areas (axilla, inguinal region, and under the jawbone), perineum, mane and tail; and
b) Be kept in PEI for the 3 days prior to export and be fully stabled at all times; and
c) Be maintained tick free for the entire duration of PEI; and
d) Be treated with an acaracide prior to entry into PEI and then treated within 48 hours prior to travel with a product highly effective against ectoparasites and applied in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

(3) Equids that require PEI for identified risk organisms other than ectoparasites must:

a) Be thoroughly examined for ectoparasites within 24 hours after entry into PEI under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian. A thorough and systematic approach must be used including a close visual and tactile examination of the ears, false nostrils, under-body areas (axilla, inguinal region, and under the jawbone), perineum, mane and tail; and
b) Be treated twice for ectoparasites:
    i) The first treatment must be given within 24 hours after entry into PEI after ectoparasite examination; and
    ii) The second treatment must be given within 24-48 hours prior to export; and
c) The product(s) used must be highly effective against ectoparasites and applied in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; and
d) Equids must be thoroughly examined within 24 hours prior to export under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian; and
    i) There must be no evidence of ectoparasite infection; or
    ii) If ectoparasites are found the equids in the consignment must be re-treated, and then re-inspected no less than 48 hours after treatment, until no ectoparasites are found (*If the exporting country is not free of piroplasmosis, this clause does not apply and equids must be free from ectoparasite infection at the inspection in the 24 hours prior to scheduled export).*

2.8 Endoparasites (small strongyles, large strongyles, ascarids, tapeworms)

(1) Equids that do not require any PEI must be treated within 24-48 hours prior to travel with a product highly effective against endoparasites and applied in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

(2) Equids that require PEI must be treated twice for endoparasites:

a) The first treatment must be given within 24 hours after entry into PEI; and
b) The second treatment must be given within 24-48 hours prior to export; and
c) The product(s) used must be highly effective against endoparasites and applied in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

2.9 Equine arteritis virus (equine viral arteritis)

(1) Equids, excluding unweaned foals under 180 days of age, must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Infection with equine arteritis virus*.

Guidance for equine arteritis virus

- Unweaned foals under 180 days of age are not required to undergo testing and vaccination if accompanied by their dam with documentation showing the dam has met all requirements for EVA.

2.10 Equine herpesvirus-1 (abortigenic and paralytic forms)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Infection with equid herpesvirus-1 (Equine rhinopneumonitis)*.

2.11 Equine infectious anaemia virus (EIA)

(1) Equids must not show any clinical signs of EIA within 48 hours prior to export; and

a) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, on premises where no official case of EIA is reported during that period; and
b) Equids must be subjected to a diagnostic test for EIA as described in the document MPI-STD-TVTL with negative results. Samples for testing must be collected within the 21 days prior to export.

2.12 Equine influenza virus (EI)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Infection with equine influenza virus* including the additional security testing. Unweaned foals under 180 days of age are not required to be vaccinated if accompanied by their dam with documentation showing the dam has met all requirements for equine influenza.

(2) EI vaccines must contain equivalent strains of EI virus as recommended by the OIE Expert Surveillance Panel on Equine Influenza Vaccine Composition: http://www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/specific-information-and-recommendations/equine-influenza/.

Guidance for equine influenza

- The additional security recommendation for EI is sampling for agent identification testing for EI on samples collected on two occasions:
  - In the 7-14 days prior to the second sample collection; and
  - In the 4 days prior to export.

2.13 Hendra virus

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from Hendra; or

(2) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in premises where no case of infection in animals or humans has been reported during that period, and Hendra is notifiable in the country of export; or

(3) Equids must be vaccinated against Hendra virus in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer not less than 14 days and not more than 1 year prior to export.

2.14 *Hypoderma bovis* and *Hypoderma lineatum* (warble fly myiasis)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in a country/zone recognised by MPI as free from warble fly, and where no case of warble fly has been reported in the 1 year prior to export; or

(2) Equids must be treated with an ectoparasiticide approved by the Competent Authority as capable of killing warble fly larvae, applied as described in the recommendations of the manufacturer within 48 hours of export and the equids must not show clinical signs of warble fly disease at the final inspection prior to export.

2.15 Japanese encephalitis virus (JE)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 21 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from JE; or

(2) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Japanese encephalitis*.

2.16 Nipah virus

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or, for at least the 90 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from Nipah; or

(2) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, in premises where no case of infection in animals or humans has been reported during that period, and Nipah is notifiable in the country of export.

2.17 Rabies virus

(1) Equids must be kept since birth or for at least the 180 days prior to export in a rabies free country as per the *Code* chapter *Infection with rabies virus*; or

(2) Equids must be permanently identified with an implanted microchip and the microchip number stated in the certificate; and

a) Must be kept for the 180 days prior to export on premises where there has been no case of rabies for at least 1 year prior to export; or
b) Must be vaccinated or revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer:

i) In the case of a primary vaccination, the vaccine must be given not less than 180 days and no more than 1 year prior to export; or
ii) In the case of a booster vaccination, the vaccine must be given no more than 1 year prior to export.

2.18 *Salmonella abortus equi* (equine salmonellosis)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 90 days prior to export, on premises where no case of equine salmonellosis (*S. abortus equi*) has been reported during that period.

2.19 *Taylorella equigenitalis* (contagious equine metritis)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 60 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from contagious equine metritis (CEM), and where no case of CEM has been reported in the 2 years prior to export; or

(2) The equid is a gelding; or

(3) Equids must:

a) Be kept, since birth or for at least 60 days prior to export on premises where no case of CEM has been reported during that period; and
b) Must have no contact with CEM directly, through breeding (naturally or via artificial insemination) with an infected equid, or indirectly by passing through an infected premises, during the 60 days prior to export; and
c) Must be subjected to a test for CEM in the 30 days prior to export, with negative results;

i) Stallions and colts must be sampled two times at intervals of 4-7 days. Sampling sites are the urethra, urethral fossa and its sinus, and the penile sheath;
ii) Mares and pubertal fillies must be sampled two times at intervals of 4-7 days. Sampling sites are the clitoral fossa and sinuses; and

d) Must not receive antibiotics within 7 days (systemic treatment) or 21 days (local treatment) before the first sample collection or during the CEM sampling period; and
e) Must not be naturally mated or inseminated with semen from a CEM-untested stallion since the date of first sampling for CEM; or

(4) The equids are less than 731 days of age and do not require testing, but must be accompanied by equivalent testing of their dam corresponding to the pre-breeding test for the season the foal was born.

2.20 *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi* (equine piroplasmosis)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 30 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from equine piroplasmosis, that does not import seropositive equids, and where no case of equine piroplasmosis has been reported in the 2 years prior to export; or

(2) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Equine piroplasmosis* and the ectoparasite requirements of this IHS.

2.21 *Trypanosoma equiperdum* (dourine)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Dourine*.

2.22 *Trypanosoma evansi* (surra)

(1) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 60 days prior to export, in a country recognised by MPI as free from surra, and where no case of surra has been reported in the 2 years prior to export; or

(2) Equids must be kept, since birth or for at least the 60 days prior to export, on premises where no case of surra has been reported during that period; and

a) Must be kept for a minimum of 30 days prior to export in PEI and protected from vectors at all times whilst in PEI and during transportation to the port of departure; and

b) Must be subjected to diagnostic tests for surra with negative results, from samples collected in the 10 days after entry into PEI.

2.23 Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis virus (VEE)

(1) Equids must meet the recommendations in the *Code* chapter for *Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis*.

Part 3: Pre-Export Isolation (PEI)

3.1 Approval and inspection of PEI facilities

(1) The premises and facility must be approved by an Official Veterinarian of the Competent Authority of the exporting country as meeting the requirements of this Part.

(2) The premises and facility must be audited annually by an Official Veterinarian and records of inspections and management must be retained for audit purposes for at least 2 years.

(3) MPI reserves the right to inspect facilities and their standard operating procedures, on a case-by-case basis, in countries approved to export equids to New Zealand, at the exporting country's expense.

(4) Where vector-proofing in PEI is a requirement of this IHS, MPI will evaluate the exporting country's standards, and may inspect the PEI facility and premises at the exporting country's expense. Repeat inspections at a negotiated time-frame may also be required. MPI may conduct an evaluation of veterinary services when adding countries to the approved country list, particularly for countries with which there is no existing trade.

3.2 Location

(1) The pre-export isolation supervising Official Veterinarian must approve the transport route and methods to the port of departure to ensure the biosecurity status of the equids is maintained.

Guidance 3.2

- MPI suggests PEI premises be located less than 240km from the port of embarkation, but recognises that alternatives may be approved by the Official Veterinarian with specific arrangements to address biosecurity and animal welfare documented in the standard operating procedures for the facility.

3.3 Premises

(1) The premises must be surrounded by two stock-proof perimeter fences at least 2 metres apart. Sections of the perimeter where the wall of an enclosed building forms part of the perimeter do not require fencing.

(2) The premises must be lockable to ensure that there is no contact with other livestock and no entry of unauthorised personnel.

(3) The premises must have:

a) Within the premises or within a reasonable distance of the premises, an area for the cleaning and disinfection of vehicles separated from the stables, holding pens and the loading area.
b) An area for unloading and loading of equids which manages the biosecurity risk of equids entering or exiting the facility coming into contact with unauthorised personnel and animals.

3.4 Facility

(1) The risk of airborne spread of equine contagious diseases must be managed and adequate distance must be maintained between quarantine and non-quarantine equids. Standard operating procedures must include details of how this risk is managed.

(2) The facility must not keep domesticated animals and there must be measures in place to prevent wild/feral animals entering the facility. Measures such as baits, trapping, bird deterrents, and their use, must be included in standard operating procedures for the facility.

(3) Stables must be constructed so that they can be effectively cleaned and disinfected.

(4) The facility must have an adequate drainage system and ensure hygienic management of waste.

(5) The stable must have facilities for veterinary examination and collection of samples.

(6) Adequate showering and changing facilities must be present e.g. piped hot water, change area, lockers/hangers.

(7) External yards or paddocks within the facility may be used for exercise.

3.5 Management

(1) The PEI premises must have a designated manager who takes responsibility for the day-to-day running of the premises, and who must report any problems promptly to the Official Veterinarian of the Competent Authority.

(2) Access to the PEI premises should be limited to staff essential to the running of the quarantine premises and animal health. Other personnel (for example farriers) may be granted access provided approval is given by the Official Veterinarian. The necessity for access must be justified as required for the health and welfare of the equids. A register of visitors must be maintained.

(3) Processes must be in place to ensure personnel and visitors to the facility have thorough knowledge of the isolation requirements and the sanitation procedures of the PEI.

3.6 Operation

(1) The premises must be emptied and thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before the commencement of each PEI.

(2) All equipment used in the feeding, handling and treatment of equids in PEI must be new or cleaned and disinfected before the commencement of the PEI.

(3) Personnel attending equids (e.g. grooms, veterinarians, stable hands, truck loading assistants, etc.) must shower and change clothing and footwear before entering the PEI facility and handling the equids. Personnel must wear clothing and footwear used exclusively in the premises.

(4) Bedding used must be visually clean and free of evidence of contamination with ticks.

3.7 Supervision and inspection

(1) The Official Veterinarian must ensure that equids for export have met the relevant requirements of *Part 2* of this IHS before equids enter PEI.

(2) The Official Veterinarian must visit the premises at the beginning and end of the PEI period, and at least weekly during the PEI period to ensure that the requirements of this IHS are being met. During the visit, the veterinarian must inspect equids, observe the operation, review the records and record the visit and activities undertaken.

(3) The veterinary clinician employed by the premises must record in a register all their visits and activities undertaken while on the PEI premises and amend the health records of any equid treated during PEI.

Part 4: Post-Arrival Quarantine (PAQ)

(1) The PAQ facility must be approved by MPI as a transitional facility approved to the MPI standard *154.02.13 Low Security Farm Animal Transitional Facilities* (to be amended to *Transitional Facility Standard for Equids, MPI-STD-EQUIDS)* and be under the supervision of an MPI Veterinarian.

4.1 Inspection and treatment of equids

(1) Equids must be available for inspection by the MPI Veterinarian who reserves the right to take specimens at any time for disease testing. Testing for exotic diseases will be performed at the MPI Animal Health Laboratory in Wallaceville.

(2) Within 24 hours of arrival into New Zealand, equids authorised to proceed to PAQ must receive from the clinical equine veterinarian approved by the operator of the transitional facility (approved veterinarian):

a) A thorough inspection confirming equids were visibly free of external parasites and clinical signs of disease caused by identified risk organisms in this IHS.
b) Equids from countries considered infested with screwworm fly must be thoroughly inspected for wounds and possible New World or Old World screwworm infestation.
c) A single treatment for ectoparasites with a fully effective ectoparasiticide, applied according to the recommendations of the manufacturer.
d) A single treatment for endoparasites with a fully effective broad spectrum endoparasiticide, administered according to the recommendations of the manufacturer.

(3) Equids must remain in the fully enclosed building until the MPI Veterinarian is satisfied that they present minimal biosecurity risk. Equids determined to present minimal biosecurity risk may be turned out into paddocks under supervision during the day, but must return to the building overnight.

(4) Equids must be observed for signs of illness, injury, ectoparasites, and abnormal behaviour periodically throughout the day. The level of daily surveillance must be sufficient to ensure that sick and deceased equids are found in sufficient time for follow up disease investigations.

(5) Equids must be inspected by an approved veterinarian at least once per day. Any illness (including pyrexia), injury, ectoparasites, changes in behaviour, or death must be immediately reported to the MPI Veterinarian.

(6) Temperature readings must be taken from equids in the PAQ premises twice daily and records must be available for inspection by the approved veterinarian and/or the MPI Veterinarian, when requested.

(7) Any unwell equids must have sufficient diagnostic testing, in consultation with MPI, performed to try to establish the cause of illness and rule out any exotic disease.

a) The approved veterinarian must record the differential diagnoses (including any potential exotic diseases);
b) Further investigation, testing, treatment and/or an extension of the consignment isolation period may be required as determined in consultation with the MPI Veterinarian and the approved veterinarian if atypical clinical signs are present or for non-responsive cases, or where exotic disease remains a potential diagnosis;
c) If the temperature is 38.5°C or higher (39.0°C or higher for foals under six months of age) on two consecutive recordings, or an abrupt onset of fever 39.5°C or higher accompanied by other clinical signs such as loss of appetite, diarrhoea, and nasal discharge, the MPI veterinarian must be immediately notified and subsequently investigated to conclusion.

(8) Equids in quarantine may be treated with antibiotics and/or anti-inflammatories (corticosteroids or NSAIDs) at the discretion of the approved veterinarian, provided they are necessary for welfare purposes (e.g. painful conditions), or to prevent progression of a significant condition (e.g. for travel sickness, limb swelling due to lack of exercise, or allergic skin reactions). Treatments must not

interfere with disease surveillance. All treatments and reasons for treatment must be recorded and must be notified to the MPI Veterinarian as soon as possible.

4.2 Diagnostic tests required

(1) Equids imported from countries where equine influenza is considered present must be subject to an agent identification test (with negative results) on nasopharyngeal swabs collected at least 5 days after entering PAQ.

(2) Equids imported from countries where equine infectious anaemia is considered by MPI as moderately to highly prevalent must be subject to an OIE prescribed test or one listed in *MPI-STD-TVTL* for international trade (with negative results) during PAQ.

(3) Equids imported from countries where Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE) is considered present must be subject to virus isolation (with negative results) on blood samples collected from any equid showing a significant rise in temperature during PAQ.

Schedule 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
1 June 2011	Import Health Standard: Horses	HORANIIC.GEN
Date of Issued Amendments	**Title**	**Shortcode**
1 February 2013	Import Health Standard: Horses	HORANIIC.GEN
22 May 2014	Import Health Standard: Horses	HORANIIC.GEN
6 November 2015	Import Health Standard: Horses	HORANIIC.GEN
TBA	Import Health Standard: Equids	LIVEQUID.GEN

Schedule 2 – Definitions

Acaracide

An agent that kills ticks and mites.

Compartment

An animal subpopulation contained in one or more establishments under a common biosecurity management system with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or specific diseases for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purposes of international trade or disease prevention and control in a country or zone.

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.

Director-General

The chief executive of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Disinfectant

A substance applied to non-living objects to destroy micro-organisms living on those objects and approved for use by the Competent Authority. MPI-approved biosecurity treatments for risk goods, including links to approved disinfectants, can be found in the *MPI Standard, BNZ-STD-ABTRT Approved Biosecurity Treatments.*

Ectoparasite

Organisms which live on the surface of the host, including (but not limited to) mosquitoes, biting flies, ticks, lice, mites, flesh-eating larvae).

Endoparasite

Organisms which live inside the host, including (but not limited to) small strongyles, large strongyles, ascarids, tapeworms).

Equids

Animals from the family *Equidae* including horses (*Equus caballus)*, asses (*Equus asinus)*, mules and hinnies (*E. caballus x E. asinus*).

Highly effective

For the purposes of the standard when referencing endo- and ectoparasiticides; with claims registered as highly effective (>98%) for use in horses, at the manufacturer's prescribed doses and intervals of administration.

IATA

The International Air Transport Association.

MPI

Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand.

MPI Veterinarian

MPI Veterinarians are appointed as Inspectors under the Biosecurity Act 1993. Inspectors are appointed by the Chief Technical Officer under section 103(1) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 for the purposes of administering and enforcing the provisions of the Act. Under the Act, Inspectors have the power to give authorisations regarding transitional facilities or risk goods.

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.

PAQ

Post-arrival quarantine.

PEI

Pre-export isolation.

Premises

Area surrounding and including the facility of the pre-export isolation (PEI) or post-arrival quarantine (PAQ), or in the case of premises freedom the place the animals resided or have temporarily visited.

Stock-Proof

A fence that livestock cannot get through. For the purposes of this import health standard livestock are regarded as cattle and other farm animals such as horses, donkeys, mules, hinnies, sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas, and pigs (this list is not exclusive).

Surveillance

The systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of information related to animal health and the timely dissemination of information to those who need to know so that action can be taken.

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.

Vector

An insect or any living carrier that transports an infectious agent from an infected individual to a susceptible individual or its food or immediate surroundings. The organism may or may not pass through a development cycle within the vector.

Vector-Proof

A PEI facility which is able to provide maximum protection from insect vectors. This should be a building, ideally a compartment within a building, which should have no gaps in the construction greater than 1 mm in width, combined with risk management strategies to protect animals and the facility from *Culicoides.*

Vector Protection

A combination of risk management strategies, guided by the OIE *Code*, to protect animals from attacks by *Culicoides,* or other vectors referred to in this IHS, during transport and PEI, taking into account the local ecology of the vector.

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.

Zone

A clearly defined part of a territory containing an animal subpopulation with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purpose of international trade.