

From: [Charlene Harradine](#)
To: [Animal Imports](#)
Cc: [Leigh Sinclair](#)
Subject: Canada's Comments on New Zealand's guidance document regarding import health standards (IHS) for imported pig semen.
Date: Tuesday, 31 January 2017 5:06:40 a.m.

New Zealand Animal Imports:

Thank you for the opportunity to review New Zealand's guidance document regarding import health standards (IHS) for imported pig semen.

Upon review of the related documents Canada is pleased that the import requirements follow the OIE very closely. With respect to PRRS, the OIE recommendations testing however there is no chapter in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code that details further recommendations for this disease. The code states (on-farm, isolation and resident herd): PRRS -The test complying with the standards in the Terrestrial Manual. Hence, other than recommending the type of tests that are approved, a country is left to develop import requirements as they feel required to prevent the introduction of this disease.

As a result, I would like to request that MPI consider the PRRS section of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Artificial Insemination Program as offering equivalent risk mitigation as that proposed in New Zealand's IHS.

The proposed statements for the certificate as per the Canadian AIP are as follows:

8.Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus:

8.1Prior to entering the pre-entry isolation facility the following conditions have been complied with,

Qualification of the herd: (i) source herd is not under quarantine and not vaccinated against PRRS

Qualification of boars on farm of origin: (i) donor boars are identified according to the national standards for swine, have undergone a clinical examination by an accredited veterinarian and found to be healthy and free of evidence of infectious or contagious swine diseases transmissible by semen.

(ii) Within the 30 days prior to arrival to the pre-entry isolation facility of an approved semen collection centre donor boars underwent a multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies that uses both European and American strain antigens with negative results.

8.2 Qualification of boars at pre-entry isolation: Boars have been kept for at least 30 days in a pre-entry isolation facility of the semen collection centre and underwent serological testing for PRRS after a minimum of 21 days in this facility with negative results. A multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies was used that includes both European and American strain antigens. The isolation is operated as an all-in all-out facility.

8.3 Qualification of boars in the resident herd: Resident donor boars in the artificial insemination centre have been tested at least annually for PRRS with negative results. A multivalent serum ELISA for PRRS antibodies was used that includes both European and American strain antigens.

The other equivalency I would like to discuss is for the antibiotic regime added to the diluent to manage *Leptospira* spp.. New Zealand offers the following: a) 50 µg tylosin, 250 µg gentamicin, 150 µg lincomycin, 300 µg spectinomycin; or b) 500 IU penicillin, 500 µg streptomycin, 150 µg lincomycin, 300 µg spectinomycin; or c) 25 µg dibekacin, 75 µg amikacin. I would like to suggest that any combination producing an equivalent effect shall be acceptable.

Kind regards,

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