

Overseas Market Access Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999

Regulation & Assurance Branch, Animal and Animal Products Directorate, Ministry for Primary Industries

Ref: AE-AU-21

Date: 2 February 2018

RABANI.AU 9 FEBRUARY 2018 – COMPANION RABBITS TO AUSTRALIA

1. Statutory authority

Pursuant to section 60, section 60A, section 62(1) and section 167 of the Animal Products Act 1999 I notify the following:

- (i) the issue under section 60 of the export requirements for Companion Rabbits to Australia, RABANI.AU, dated 9 February 2018;
- (ii) the revocation and replacement of Companion Rabbits to Australia, RABANIEC.AU, dated 7 October 2014;
- (iii) the determination under section 62(1) of the format and content of the official assurance for companion rabbits to Australia.

This notice takes effect from the 9 February 2018

Dated at Wellington this 2nd day of February 2018.

Signed: Howard Pharo
Manager Import and Export Animals
Animal and Animal Products Directorate
Regulation and Assurance Branch
(acting under delegated authority)

2. Australia requirements

Companion rabbits exported from New Zealand to Australia must be accompanied by an official assurance in the form of a completed zoosanitary certificate.

The zoosanitary certificate as specified below must be completed and certified, after due enquiry, by an Official Veterinarian of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Explanatory note:

If the zoosanitary certificate is not certified then the companion rabbits do not satisfy the conditions in the notice. Likewise, if the companion rabbits do not satisfy the zoosanitary requirements in the certificate, then the certificate will not be certified.



Certificate No:

NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Commodity: COMPANION RABBITS (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

To: AUSTRALIA (excluding Queensland)

Exporting Country: NEW ZEALAND

Competent Authority: MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

I. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

Microchip Number	Location of Microchip	Description	Species	Sex	Age

Total number of rabbits:

II. SOURCE OF ANIMALS

Name and address of exporter:

.....

Premises of origin of rabbits:

III. DESTINATION OF ANIMALS

Name and address of consignee:

.....

Means and identification of transport:

IV. SANITARY INFORMATION

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE

I....., being an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, certify after due enquiry in regards to the animals identified in the zoosanitary certificate, that:

1. No case of the disease Tularaemia (*Francisella tularensis*) has been diagnosed in New Zealand in the two (2) years prior to certification.
2. So far as can be determined there is no evidence of the following diseases or infectious agents at the premises where the companion rabbit has resided during the twelve (12) months prior to export:
 - *Treponema cuniculi* (treponematosi)
 - *Encephalitozoon cuniculi* (encephalitozoonosis)
 - *Yersinia pestis* (sylvatic plague)
 - European brown hare syndrome
 - Rabbit enterocolitis
3. As far as can be determined, each rabbit for export has been continuously resident in New Zealand for six (6) months prior to export or since birth.
4. Each rabbit was at least six (6) weeks of age at the time of export
5. Each rabbit for export was examined by an Official Veterinarian during the forty eight (48) hours immediately prior to export and was found to be clinically healthy and free from evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and visible, palpable tumours and external parasites, and was fit to travel.
6. All other rabbits on the premises of origin were inspected and found to be clinically healthy and free from evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and external parasites during the forty eight (48) hours immediately prior to the rabbit(s) being exported.
7. Pre-export testing and treatment:
 - a) [The rabbit for export has not been vaccinated for myxomatosis;]*

OR

[The rabbit for export was vaccinated for myxomatosis using an approved vaccine containing live Shope Fibroma virus or with an inactivated vaccine a minimum of six (6) months prior to export]*

(*Delete as appropriate)

- b) During the four (4) days immediately prior to export, each rabbit was treated with a imidacloprid in accordance with manufacturer's directions:

Name of product:

Active ingredient(s):

Dose rate:

Date administered:

.....
Signature of Official Veterinarian
Ministry for Primary Industries

.....
Official Stamp and Date

.....
.....
Name and Address

NOTE: The Official Veterinarian must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate using a different colour ink to the paper and the print, and, where applicable, sign, date and stamp each page of the documents (e.g. laboratory reports) that form part of the extended health certification.

EXPORT CERTIFICATION

(This is not part of the official certification)

COMMODITY: COMPANION RABBITS

COUNTRY: AUSTRALIA (excluding Queensland)

NOTES: This certificate replaces the certificate dated 7 October 2014. The certificate has been updated to reflect new Department of Agriculture and Water Resources requirements.

1. These requirements apply to the exportation of companion rabbits from New Zealand to Australia. Companion rabbits are defined as domestic rabbits, species *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, which belong to a household in which there are no more than ten (10) rabbits more than six (6) months of age.
2. A permit to import from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources is not required.
3. Refer to Department of Agriculture and Water Resources website for import conditions:
<https://bicon.agriculture.gov.au/BiconWeb4.0/ImportConditions/Conditions?EvaluatableElementId=273688&Path=UNDEFINED&UserContext=External&EvaluationStateId=27614ddf-d0d4-4da2-bb28-f4ba3a49ee1e&CaseElementPk=796163&EvaluationPhase=ImportDefinition&HasAlerts=True&IsAEP=False>
4. The exporter must give the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources at least three (3) days notice of the animal's arrival in Australia. This should be done by emailing or faxing the following information to the department veterinary officers located in the state in which your pet will first arrive in Australian territory:
 - date and estimated time of arrival;
 - flight number;
 - air waybill number;
 - list of animals being imported;
 - contact telephone number in New Zealand or Australia.
5. It is the importer's responsibility to identify and to ensure compliance with all requirements of any other regulatory and advisory bodies prior to and after importation. Please note: It is illegal to have rabbits as pets in the state of Queensland; therefore pet rabbits cannot be imported into this state.
6. The design of the container(s) used to transport the animal(s) must comply with the International Air Transport Associations (IATA) Live Animal regulations <http://www.iata.org/Pages/default.aspx>.
7. The use of hay or straw as bedding during transport by air is not permitted; treated wood shavings, sterilised peat and soft board may be used.
8. Documentation must be in order and all import requirements must be met. Any animal arriving in Australia having not met the requirements may be held under biosecurity control, be re-shipped to New Zealand or euthanased without recompense.
9. If you are planning on returning to New Zealand with your pet in the future, please contact the animal imports group at MPI to obtain information on importing pets back in New Zealand. We strongly suggest that this is done before your pet is exported from New Zealand as not every country can meet the New Zealand import conditions, and so you may not be able to import your pet back into New Zealand. The imports group can be contacted by phone: 04 894 0304 or email: animalimports@mpi.govt.nz

Section 61A Animal Products Act 1999 states that 'The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market'.