

Clarifications for the MPI Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia and Canine and feline semen of NZ origin to Australia.

Note that the latest clarification on a topic overrides the previous clarification on that topic.

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| Clarification No. | 18 |
| Date issued | 23rd March 2020 |
| Subject | Interim Emergency Measure in Response to Covid-19 outbreak |
| <p>Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the Australian Department of Agriculture have advised they will accept a 6 day certification time for cats and dogs whilst the pandemic is continuing. This measure is temporary, and will be reverted back to the 5 day time frame upon Australia’s advice, and will be recorded here, as well as direct notification to each approved veterinary practice.</p> <p>No other amendments have been authorised.</p> | |
| Clarification No. | 17 |
| Date issued | 17th December 2018 |
| Subject | Correcting errors and failed microchips (whereby the owner is not present at certification point.) |
| <p>When correcting errors, ensure the ink colour used is the same as the initial error ink colour.</p> <p>If faced with certifying an animal without the owner present, and the microchip which has been signed and recorded for on the owner statutory declaration form fails at certification point, do not certify the animal until you have received at least a scanned copy from the owner of a new OSD form which depicts the new microchip number. The original new OSD form must be sent to the veterinary practice for practice records as per the program.</p> | |
| Clarification No. | 16 |
| Date issued | 24 June 2018 |
| Subject | Cats and Dogs to Australia export certificate dated 1st July 2018. |
| <p>A new version of the Cats and Dogs to Australia export certificate has been issued and comes into effect on 1st July 2018.</p> <p>The new certificate replaces the certificate reference DOMANIEC dated 01 July 2015.</p> <p>The export certificate has been updated to align with previous clarifications and updates to the MPI export programme since July 2015.</p> <p>There are NO export requirement changes on this certificate. Please refer to Version 6 of the MPI Export Programme for Cats & Dogs to Australia.</p> | |

Updates include formatting of the certificate. The edited changes have enabled a clearer distinction of the exporter section and the veterinary section.

Edits have also been made to aid correct filling in of the certificate in particular the date format and the appropriate option to be used for dogs.

For animals travelling by sea the ship name has been added to the scheduled flight number.

The notes on the reverse of the certificate have been extensively updated to reflect all changes since the previous certificate version, In particular reference note (6).

The footer reference has been changed to align with MPI's naming convention and the date of the certificate issue.

All certificates signed on 1st of July 2018 and after must only be the new certificate PETANIAU dated 01 July 2018

The owner statutory declaration has not changed.

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| Clarification No. | 15 |
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| Date issued | 24 June 2018 |
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| Subject | Canine and Feline semen of NZ origin export certificate dated 1st July 2018 |
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The new version of the canine and feline semen of Australia origin certificate has been issued and comes into effect as of 1st July 2018.

There are **NO** requirement changes on this certificate. Import permits are no longer required for exporting Canine and Feline Semen of NZ origin to Australia.

The certificate including the export certificate notes have been updated to align with previous clarifications since 01 August 2016.

Edits have been made to aid correct filling in of the certificate, in particular the date format.

The footer reference has also been changed to align with MPI's naming convention and the date of the certificate issue.

All canine and feline semen of NZ origin being certified on 1st of July 2018 and onwards must only be certified on the new certificate CAFSEMNZO.AU dated 01 July 2018

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| Clarification No. | 14 |
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| Date issued | 30 May 2018 |
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| Subject | Canine and feline semen import permits |
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A new version of the MPI export certificate for canine and feline semen will be issued with a proposed date of 1st July 2018.

The new certificate reflects the removal of the requirement for an import permit for canine and feline semen as advised by Australia. The removal of the requirement for an import permit has

already come into effect. Therefore even though the current certificate dated 1st August 2016 still has the requirement for an import number, please as of now, leave that section blank.

Clarification No. 13

Date issued 1 July 2017

Subject **Export Programme for cats & dogs to Australia 1 July 2017 (Version 6)**

- A new version of the MPI export programme has been issued and will be available via MPI's website as of 1st July 2017:
<http://mpi.govt.nz/exporting/animals/pets/cats-and-dogs-toaustralia/information-for-vets/>
- The main changes are
- An **Internal Audit Form (Appendix D)** has been added to the new Practice Manual
 - a new **Owner's Statutory Declaration form** has been developed with the feedback received at the annual MPI exporter meetings
 - the **auditing frequency** following a serious non-compliance has been altered and practices will now be lowered by one level instead of starting at Level 1.

The current export certificates for Cats & Dogs to Australia & Canine and Feline Semen are **not changing**. Due to the 90 day validity of the Owner's Statutory Declaration Form, the use of both versions will be acceptable until the **1st of October 2017**. After this date only Version 6 will be acceptable.

Clarification No. 12

Date issued 31 May 2017

Subject **Change to Australia's import policy on hybrid breeds of dogs and cats**

- Australia's Department of the Environment and Energy (DEE) advised they have updated their hybrid import policy to exclude several additional hybrid breeds/ types of dogs and cats. Most notably there is now an exclusion on **all** Bengal cats regardless of how many generations these are removed. If you have any queries regarding this notification, please contact the Department of the Environment and Energy on +61 2 6274 2678 or email [Exotic Species](mailto:ExoticSpecies@deewater.gov.au) for more information. Below is a link to the relevant section of the Australian website:
<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/cats-dogs/step-by-step-guides/category-1-new-zealand#step-2-general-eligibility>

Clarification No. 11

Date issued 19 May 2016

Subject **Re-classification of non-compliance examples, clarification on prohibited dog breeds, BACC, Owner Statutory Declaration**

- The non-compliance examples for the cats and dogs to Australia export programme have been re-classified with the intention to downgrade some of the non-compliances and to rename these to minor, major and serious non-compliance. Refer to the latest version of the Export Programme for cats and dogs to Australia.
- For prohibited dog breed enquiries, only the following pure-breeds are prohibited and

not eligible for importation into Australia: Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Pit Bull Terrier or American Pit Bull, Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario. There is no point of contact in Australia to confirm any dog breeds. It solely depends on the exporter's declaration. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is permitted.

- Biosecurity Authority Clearance Certificates (BACC) or the original Australian export certificates are no longer required for exporting dogs that were initially imported into New Zealand from Australia. The residency declaration in the exporter's declaration section of the export certificate determines the animal's origin.
- The Owner Statutory Declaration form (OSD) is valid for only 90 days from the date of its issue. In situations, where it expires, a new OSD form must be completed by the owner, attested by an authorised person and the original document kept at the practice. An OSD form is still deemed acceptable if there are any variations to the scheduled date of export after it has been completed.

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| Clarification No. | 10 |
| Date issued | 20 July 2015 |
| Subject | Updated Version of Export Programme For Cats And Dogs to Australia, Updated export certificate for cats and dogs to Australia, New Owner Statutory declaration form, Clarification on correcting errors on export certificate, Ordering imidocarb & Changes to the requirements for cats and dogs to Australia |
| <p>As of 1st July 2015, version 5 of the Export programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia became effective and fully replaces all earlier versions.</p> <p>As of 1st July 2015, new export certificates for cats and dogs to Australia became effective and fully replace all earlier versions.</p> <p>As of 1st July, new Owner Statutory Declaration form became effective and fully replaces all earlier versions. There is a grace period of one month, until the 01 August 2015, where exporters can use the old Owner Statutory Declaration Form.</p> <p>Please note regarding Error correction in clause 4.6.r of the MPI Export Programme for cats and dogs to Australia, Exporters can correct the errors in the exporter's section. But any correction made by the exporter must have to be checked, countersigned with full signature and dated by the certifying vet. This is to prevent exporters from making changes to the export certificate after it has been signed and issued. The certifying vet may correct an error made in the exporter's section and sign off and date the error. Also please note that the same error may be corrected more than once but try to avoid it as much as possible. In situations where there are more than four errors in total, a new certificate must be used and the export certificate cancelled as per part 4.11. In cases where an export certificate issued for an animal cannot be used within 5 days of signing & issuing the export certificate because of the animal becoming sick or a delay in flight, the animal has to be re-examined and re-certified using a replacement certificate. The old certificate must be cancelled as per part 4.11.</p> <p>For dogs which have been resident in mainland Africa and need to be treated for <i>Babesia canis</i> with Imidocarb Dipropionate, the practice must contact AsureQuality to order it. MPI no longer orders Imidocarb Dipropionate.</p> <p>Some changes to the requirements for cats and dogs to Australia from 1 July 2015,</p> | |

- Treatment of the cat/dog for internal and external parasites & examination of the animal can be done within 5 days of the scheduled time of departure (previous requirement was 72 hours). Parasite treatment must be effective against internal (nematodes and cestodes) and external parasites (that kills ticks and fleas on contact) using drugs registered for that purpose in New Zealand. As a general rule, oral external parasite treatments do not meet Australian import conditions and should therefore not be relied upon for exporting dogs and cats to Australia. The department's website includes a table of acceptable parasite treatments for use in preparing dogs and cats for export to Australia. The list is not exhaustive but where an exporter wishes to use an unlisted product they should contact the department first to check that it will be appropriate.
- In the case of the female cat or female dog, the animal must not be more than 40 days pregnant, nor suckling young at the time of export. (previous requirement was 21 days)
- For dogs that require blood testing for *Ehrlichia & Leishmania* , the blood sample must be collected after it has resided in New Zealand for at least 21 days (previous requirement stated no time period)
- The Department of Agriculture, Australia is now the official name for what was previously Australia's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) or AQIS.

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| Clarification No. | 9 |
| Date issued | 15 July 2013 |
| Subject | Owner Statutory Declaration Form – Original Only |
| <u>Owner Statutory Declaration Form</u> | |
| <p>Earlier in the year we had provided a clarification stating that where an owner of an animal had left the country for Australia prior to their animal being exported it would be acceptable for a scanned/photocopy of an owner declaration to be used with the original to follow by post/courier.</p> <p>We have recently reviewed this decision and have decided that as of the 1st of August this method of providing declarations will no longer be acceptable.</p> <p>From the 1st of August 2013, photocopies and scanned documents will not be accepted. Any Owner Statutory Declaration forms must be provided as the original document.</p> <p>Please also be reminded that after the declaration has been signed by the Justice of the Peace or other person authorised to take a statutory declaration that the form can not be altered in any way.</p> | |
| Clarification No. | 8 |
| Date issued | 22 February 2013 |
| Subject | Notification of Change of Export Certificates - 1 March 2013, Ehrlichia and Leishmania testing, Clarification on dog breeds, New Owner Statutory declaration form |

Change of Export Certificates - 1 March 2013

DAFF has approved a new export certificate for cats & dogs, and canine and feline semen of New Zealand origin to Australia which will be issued by MPI for use from 01 March 2013. The new certificate has been developed in conjunction with AsureQuality with the purpose of simplifying the process of certification for practicing veterinarians.

Ehrlichia and Leishmania testing

For dogs that require *Ehrlichia canis* and *Leishmania infantum* testing, the tests must be done while the dogs are resident in New Zealand. This testing remains valid only if the dog is continuously resident in New Zealand from the sampling date until export to Australia. This means even if the dog was tested previously for import into New Zealand, using the correct test method, the copy of the results is not acceptable.

For Ehrlichia and Leishmania tests done overseas, DAFF has agreed to accept them until 01 April 2013. After 01 April 2013, the tests must be done while the dogs are resident in New Zealand.

Clarifications on dog breeds

MPI would like to bring to your attention an issue that DAFF have reported. On occasion, the breed listed on the dog health certificates simply reads “cross-breed” and this can tend to cause some confusion on arrival in Australia, requiring follow-up with the preparing veterinarian in NZ. In future DAFF officers would prefer if cross-breeds were recorded with a breed the dog “most resembles” – e.g. cross-breed Labrador, etc.

New Owner Statutory declaration form

MPI have issued the latest version of the Owner Statutory Declaration form for Cats & Dogs for export to Australia.

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| Clarification No. | 7 |
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| Date issued | 08 October 2012 |
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| Subject | Export Programme updated with new categorisation examples for Non-compliances, AsureQuality Non-Compliance Management cost, time frame for sending receipt forms to AQ |
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Updated Export Programme

There is a new version of the ‘Export Programme for cats and dogs to Australia – version 3, 24 September 2012’. The changes made are listed in the Amendment Record page of the programme (new categorisation examples for Non- Compliances, AsureQuality Management cost and the time frame for sending receipt forms to AQ). Please update your records to reference the new version and ensure all certifying veterinarians are aware of the changes.

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| Clarification No. | 6 |
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| Date issued | 24 September 2012 |
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| Subject | Owner Statutory Declaration form & Non-compliance update |
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Removed

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| Clarification No. | 5 |
| Date issued | 6 August 2012 |
| Subject | Rabies vaccinations for export to countries other than Australia |
| <u>Rabies Vaccinations for Cats and Dogs for Export</u> | |
| <p>In 2010 the rabies vaccine Rabisin® was imported into New Zealand to cover a shortage of Nobivac® Rabies vaccination.</p> <p>Rabisin® is no longer available in New Zealand, but when it was available the recommended booster was annually (not every two years as it is in some other countries). The product data sheet that was included with the vaccine contained the annual vaccination requirement information.</p> <p>Nobivac® Rabies, which is the current rabies vaccination available, has a recommended booster every three years.</p> <p>There are a number of animals that have been presented to Official Veterinarians for export certification that have been vaccinated with Rabisin® and have incorrectly been given a two year expiry. If the vaccinations are outside their one year validity, the animal will be ineligible for export.</p> <p>If you are presented with an animal for preparation for export to a country that requires a rabies vaccination you must ensure the current vaccination status of that animal is within the manufacturer's validity for the country where the vaccination was administered.</p> <p>If the animal was vaccinated previously with Rabisin®, it must have received its booster vaccination within one year of the original vaccination to comply with the manufacturer's stated validity.</p> <p>If you wish to view the data sheet for Rabisin® provided to New Zealand by Merial please contact the MPI Animal Export Team at animalexports@mpi.govt.nz.</p> | |
| Clarification No. | 4 |
| Date issued | 20 July 2012 |
| Subject | MAF/MPI, Updated export programme, clarification link on web page, Babesia treatment update and certification errors. |
| <u>MAF/MPI</u> | |
| <p>As you should be aware the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) is now the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Nearly all documentation, email addresses, web pages and the programme have been updated from MAF to MPI. The actual export certificate will not be updated until later in the year as it will be printed on new paper and this change is being regulated by another MPI department. When the certificate is updated there will be a certificate recall to replace all existing certificates. This will be notified well in advance.</p> <p><u>Updated Export Programme</u></p> <p>There is a new version of the 'Export Programme for cats and dogs to Australia – version 2, 9 July 2012'. The changes made are listed in the amendment page with more detail added and new parts on short stay in Australia and export to other countries. Please update your records</p> | |

to reference the new version and ensure all certifying veterinarians are aware of the changes.

Clarification Link

The web page (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/certs-cat-dog-oz-vet-info.htm>) now contains a link to this clarification page. All clarifications will be posted on this page. It is recommended that certifying veterinarians check the website regularly for new clarifications.

Babesia Treatment Update

MPI has renegotiated with DAFF requirements around treating strays with imidocarb dipropionate for *Babesia canis*. It has been accepted by DAFF that owners going to the expense of importing a dog from Africa are unlikely to re-home or 'lose' their dog. It has been agreed in cases where the history of the animal is unknown (stray/rehomed) that it does not need to be treated for Babesia.

If a dog has been imported into New Zealand from Africa and was tested, but not treated for *Babesia canis*, then treatment is required as Australia will not accept a negative test result.

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| Clarification No. | 3 |
| Date issued | 18 June 2012 |
| Subject | Mandatory Microchipping |

The following is a notification regarding a new legal notice coming into effect on 1 September 2012. Can you please ensure all vets are aware of the new requirement? It is relevant for the preparation of cats and dogs for export to **all** countries that require an official assurance (export certificate).

MANDATORY MICROCHIPPING

The Animal Products (Export Requirements – Cats and Dogs) Notice 2012 will come into effect on 1 September 2012.

For official veterinarians to sign an official assurance (export certificate) they need to be able to confirm the identification of the animal. This notice makes it mandatory for all cats and dogs exported from New Zealand that require an official assurance, to be microchipped prior to being presented for certification.

If there are any tests or treatments that need to be completed as part of the Official Assurance then the animal should be microchipped prior to these and the microchip number recorded on all documentation.

Microchips should be ISO-compliant or a reader capable of reading the microchip would need to be provided by the exporter/owner.

Due to the nature of microchips it is recommended, in cases where animals have been microchipped several years prior, to have the microchip scanned and confirmed prior to the certification appointment, as sometimes they move or become unreadable.

The notice will be available on the Ministry for Primary Industries public website:
<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/exporting/animals/pets/>

Animal Exports Team
Ministry for Primary Industries
www.mpi.govt.nz
Ph: 0800 00 83 33

Email: animalexports@mpi.govt.nz

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| Clarification No. | 2 |
| Date issued | 21 May 2012 |
| Subject | Imidocarb Treatment- further clarification |

Removed

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| Clarification No. | 1 |
| Date issued | 17 May 2012 |
| Subject | Cats and Dogs to Australia - Clarifications |

It has been over a month since the introduction of the changes to the system for the export certification of cats and dogs to Australia.

For currently approved veterinarians, on-line veterinary assessment only needs to be completed prior to your practice audit. Ensure a copy of the successful result is kept on file. (AsureQuality will inform practices when their audit is due and what they need to submit).

For veterinarians that are not currently approved please send their result, along with the veterinary application form (appendix 6 of the programme), to AsureQuality, so that they can be added to your approved veterinarian list.

Please ensure all veterinarians are reading the **current** programme: 'Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia' located at the top of this webpage:

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/certs-cat-dog-oz-vet-info.htm>

This webpage also has word versions of the application forms and template manual for easier use.

We would like to take this opportunity to provide the following clarifications and additional instruction on issues that have been queried repeatedly during the past month:

Microchipping: The animal should be microchipped before it is presented for certification. In the case of an owner presenting their animal it is acceptable for this to be done at the time of certification. Microchipping must be done before any bloods are taken for testing purposes. For any tests ensure the animal's microchip number is on all documentation. Microchips must be scanned and checked at the time of certification.

Justice of the Peace owner statutory declaration: This is only required when a pet exporter/representative presents the animal for certification. The actual certificate does **not** leave the vet clinic until it has been signed by the veterinarian and the animal is good to go. There is no requirement for the actual certificate to be signed by a JP.

Replacement Certificates: If you have a certificate with too many errors that needs replacing: please return the certificate to AQ with "CANCELLED, REPLACED BY CERTIFICATE NO.....DATED.....". Return it with the order form for certificates and the reason for the replacement. (Note you can have up to four corrected errors on a certificate.) The amendments to the programme will include an updated order form that will include replacement certificates. (The new form will also to be used for replacement certificates for assistance dogs.)

Approval Numbers: Your new Practice Approval Number must be used, the old approval numbers are no longer valid.