



Import Health Standard

Draft for Consultation

Semen and Embryos from Sheep (*Ovis aries*) and Goats (*Capra hircus*)

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TITLE

Import Health Standard: Semen and Embryos from Sheep (*Ovis aries*) and Goats (*Capra hircus*)

PURPOSE

This import health standard (IHS) specifies the minimum requirements that must be met when importing semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*).

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on ..

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This import health standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Dated at Wellington this .

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director General)

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Part 1: Introduction

1.1 Background

- (1) The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.
- (2) Import health standards (IHSs) 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 during importation, before biosecurity clearance can be given.
- (3) This particular IHS sets out the minimum requirements that must be met when importing semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*) into New Zealand.
- (4) A guidance document accompanies this IHS providing information on how the requirements may be met

1.2 What and whom this standard applies to

- (1) This IHS applies to importers of eligible consignments of semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*).

1.3 The outcome this standard is seeking to achieve

- (1) The outcome this IHS is seeking to achieve is the effective management of biosecurity risks associated with semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*).
- (2) The risk organisms associated with semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*) that are managed by this IHS are:
 - a) Bluetongue virus
 - b) Sheeppox and goatpox, capripox virus
 - c) Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever virus
 - d) Foot and mouth disease virus
 - e) Jaagsiekte sheep retrovirus, ovine pulmonary adenomatosis
 - f) Maedi-visna virus
 - g) Peste des petits ruminants virus
 - h) Rift Valley fever virus
 - i) Vesicular stomatitis virus
 - j) Wesselsbron virus
 - k) *Brucella melitensis*, caprine and ovine brucellosis
 - l) *Mycoplasma capricolum subsp capripneumoniae*, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
 - m) *Mycoplasma agalactiae*, contagious agalactia
 - n) *Mycobacterium bovis* and *Mycobacterium caprae*, tuberculosis
 - o) *Chlamydophila spp.*, enzootic abortion of ewes
 - p) *Coxiella burnetii*, Q fever
 - q) Scrapie

1.4 Equivalence

- (1) The Chief Technical Officer (CTO) may approve measures under section 27(1)(d) of the Act, different from those set out in this IHS, that may be applied to effectively manage risks associated with the

importation of these goods. If an equivalence measure is approved a permit to import may be issued under section 24D(2) of the Act, if the Director-General considers it appropriate to do so.

See guidance document for more information about equivalence and permits

1.5 Consequences of not complying with this standard

- (1) 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.

See guidance document for more information about importer responsibilities.

1.6 Definitions

- (1) Refer to Appendix 1.

1.7 Incorporation of material 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 Embryo Transfer Society Manual (the IETS Manual) (available at the IETS website: <http://www.iets.org/>).
 - d) The International Committee for Animal Recording (available at the ICAR website: www.icar.org).
- (2) The following MPI 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). (found here: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/imports/animals/mpi-std-tvt-diagnostic-tests-vaccines-treatments-post-arrival-testing.pdf>)
 - b) MPI List of FMD-Free Countries and Zones (found here: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/pests/foot-n-mouth/fmd-free-countries-and-zones.pdf>)
- (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 above listed standards, guideline or lists has legal effect as part of these documents.

See guidance document for more information about incorporation by reference and section 142O(1)

1.8 Other Information

- (1) 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.

Part 2: Requirements

2.1 Eligibility

- (1) Semen and embryos must be from *Ovis aries* or *Capra hircus* and must be frozen and non-genetically modified.
- (2) Embryos must be *in vivo* derived and non-cloned.

2.2 What countries this standard applies to

- (1) Semen and embryos from sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goats (*Capra hircus*) may be imported into New Zealand from all countries that meet the requirements of this IHS.

2.3 Exporting country systems and certification

- (1) Importation may only occur from a country where the Competent Authority has provided the following evidence to the satisfaction of the CTO:
 - a) the verifiable animal health status of ovine and caprine populations in the exporting country or zone, with respect to biosecurity risk organisms of concern;
 - b) the national systems/programmes and standards in the exporting country for regulatory oversight of livestock and germplasm collection; and
 - c) the capabilities and preferences of the exporting country's Competent Authority with respect to achieving equivalent outcomes to requirements stated in the IHS.
- (2) MPI reserves the right to perform an in-country or desk-top audit at any time, including prior to the first shipment of germplasm.

See guidance document for more information about exporting country systems and certification.

2.4 Diagnostic testing, vaccination, and treatment

- (1) Any laboratory conducting the pre-export and/or surveillance testing as specified in the IHS must be approved by the Competent Authority of a country approved to export to New Zealand.
- (2) Laboratory samples must be collected, processed, and stored in accordance with the recommendations in the *Code* and/or the *Manual*.
- (3) Tests used must be listed in and carried out in accordance with MPI-STD-TVTL.
- (4) All products and vaccinations administered to meet the specific disease requirements in Part 3 must be administered according to the manufacturer's instruction in a country approved to export to New Zealand. All vaccinations were either the final dose of a primary course or the recommended booster to complement the primary course.
- (5) All product names, manufacturers, active ingredients (where applicable), dose and date of treatment must be recorded on the Veterinary Certificate.
- (6) All vaccine names, whether they are inactivated or modified live virus, and the virus types and strains included in the vaccine must be recorded on the Veterinary Certificate.

See guidance document for more information about tests and vaccination.

2.5 Embryo collection team and flock/herd approval requirements

- (1) At the time of collection of embryos for export to New Zealand, the embryo collection team must be approved by and registered with the Competent Authority of the exporting country to collect, process, and store embryos for export in accordance with the current recommendations of the OIE *Code* or legislation of the exporting country (where MPI deems this to be equivalent) and the current IETS *Manual*.
- (2) The Competent Authority must have knowledge of and authority over the embryo collection flock or herd until completion of collection and testing specified by this IHS.

2.6 Semen collection facility requirements

- (1) The semen collection facility must meet the conditions specified in the OIE *Code* Chapter on general hygiene in semen collection and processing centres.
- (2) The semen collection facility must be:
 - a) approved for export by the Competent Authority;
 - b) subject to regular inspection, at least every 12 months, by an Official Veterinarian; and
 - c) under the supervision of a semen collection facility veterinarian approved by the Competent Authority.
- (3) The name and approval number of the semen collection facility must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.
- (4) Donors may be transferred from one approved semen collection facility to another of equal health status without isolation or testing if all of the following requirements are met:
 - a) Donors must be examined, by the approved semen collection facility veterinarian, and show no clinical sign of disease on the day of entry into the facility.
 - b) Transfer must be direct.
 - c) Transfer must be through a bluetongue infected zone, or donors must be protected from insect attack during transit.
 - d) Donors must not come into direct or indirect contact with animals of a lower health status.
 - e) The means of transport must be disinfected before use.

2.7 Health status

- (1) Embryo donors must be resident in the embryo collection flock/herd for at least 28 days prior to collection of embryos for export to New Zealand.
- (2) Semen donors must be isolated for at least 28 days at a place specifically approved for this purpose by the Competent Authority prior to admission to the semen collection facility. During this time they must not be used for natural mating and must be isolated from animals not of equivalent health status.
- (3) The approved embryo collection team veterinarian or semen collection facility veterinarian is responsible for ensuring that the donor is free from clinical evidence of infectious diseases transmissible in semen or embryos on the day of collection.
- (4) Where a specific requirement for a risk organism is met by pre-collection testing, embryo donors must be isolated from other sheep or goats not of an equivalent tested health status, from the time of the pre-collection test until completion of embryo collection for export to New Zealand.
- (5) Where a specific requirement for a risk organism is met by monitoring for clinical signs for a specified time after collection, the semen or embryos must be stored for that amount of time prior to export.
- (6) Embryos produced for the consignment must be fertilised from semen which:

- a) is imported directly from New Zealand or is eligible for import into New Zealand; or
- b) Is collected, processed, and stored at a semen collection facility that complies with the official semen collection facility protocols of the exporting country (where MPI deems this to be equivalent); or
- c) Where natural service or fresh semen was used, donor males must be inspected, found free from clinical evidence of infectious diseases transmissible in semen, and satisfy the testing and isolation requirements for semen from sheep and goats.

2.8 Collection and processing

- (1) Embryos must be collected and processed in accordance with the recommendations in the OIE *Code* Chapter on collection and processing of *in vivo* derived embryos from livestock.
- (2) Semen must be collected and processed in accordance with the current recommendations of the OIE *Code* Chapter on collection and processing of small ruminant semen, unless indicated otherwise in Part 3 of this IHS.
- (3) Embryos must be treated with trypsin during the washing process as described in the IETS *Manual*.
- (4) Embryos must have an intact zona pellucida and be free of adherent material after the final wash when examined over its entire surface at not less than 50X magnification. If any micro-manipulation is done that causes a breach of the zona pellucida, it must be done according to the procedures described in the OIE *Code* and IETS *Manual*.
- (5) Media and solutions used to produce embryos must be either sterilised by approved methods according to the IETS *Manual* or commercially (pre-packaged) prepared sterile media. They must be handled in such a manner as to ensure that sterility is maintained. All biological products of animal origin used in the media and solutions must be free from pathogenic organisms including pestiviruses.
- (6) Antibiotics recommended in the OIE *Code* and IETS *Manual* must be added to embryo collection, processing, washing and storage media and to the semen diluent in accordance with the OIE *Code*. The names of antibiotics added and their concentration must be stated on the veterinary certificate.

2.9 Storage

- (1) The cryogenic or cooling agent used in the freezing process, storage, and transport must not have been used previously in association with any other product of animal origin.
- (2) Dry ice and associated equipment to process semen pellets must be managed to prevent contamination with semen of donors not of equivalent tested health status.
- (3) Semen and embryos must be in new or sanitised containers, which are sealed and tamper-evident, and clearly and permanently marked to identify the donor and the date(s) of freezing. If a code is used for this information, its decipher instructions must accompany the consignment. The marking should, in accordance with the OIE *Code*, conform to the international standards of the IETS or to the international standards of the International Committee for Animal Recording.
- (4) Semen and embryos for export must only be stored with germplasm that has been approved for export to New Zealand. Containers must be held in a storage place approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country until the time of export.
- (5) Storage of germplasm in a third country (other than the country of origin) is permitted if the third country has MPI approved systems and certification for the export of semen and embryos from sheep and goats to New Zealand. The consignment of germplasm must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate (a current version) certified by the country of origin to export to New Zealand, or a letter from the country of origin's Competent Authority indicating that the germplasm meets New Zealand's current import requirements. The germplasm must also be accompanied by a declaration from the Competent Authority of the third country, linking the germplasm from the country of origin to the germplasm being

exported to New Zealand and confirming that the germplasm has been stored as required by the IHS, at a facility approved by the Competent Authority.

2.10 Transport

- (1) Transport containers must be sanitised and free of contamination. When the transport container is not new, the disinfectant, its active chemical and date of disinfection must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.
- (2) The transport container in which germplasm is transported to New Zealand must be sealed, by either the semen facility or embryo collection team veterinarian or an official veterinarian, using tamper-evident seals. The seal number must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.
- (3) Where semen or embryos are transferred from one transport container to another, the date of transfer, approved collection facility or flock/herd, reason for transfer, and name of veterinarian involved in the transfer must be recorded on the veterinary certificate.

2.11 The documentation that must accompany goods

- (1) The consignment must arrive in New Zealand with a:
 - a) permit to import issued by MPI (copy acceptable);
 - b) Veterinary Certificate; and either
 - i) a tabulated summary of laboratory results (must include dates of sample collection, test type, and test results); or
 - ii) copies of laboratory reports.
- (2) The Veterinary Certificate that accompanies a consignment must include all of the following:
 - a) Unique consignment identifier
 - b) Species, donor animal identification, quantity (semen/embryos)
 - c) Dates of collection
 - d) Collection facility name or embryo collection herd/flock name, date of entry
 - e) Name and address of importer (consignee) and exporter (consignor)
 - f) Certification and endorsements that the requirements outlined in Part 2 and Part 3 of this IHS have been met
 - g) Transport container seal number and disinfection information
 - h) Name, signature, and contact details of the Official Veterinarian
 - i) All diagnostic tests, including test type, date of sampling, and results, in the form of a tabulated summary or copies of laboratory reports
 - j) All products and vaccines administered to meet specific disease import requirements, including the generic name, active ingredient, dose rate, and date of treatment
- (3) The documentation must:
 - a) be original, unless otherwise stated;
 - b) accompany the imported goods;
 - c) be in English or have an English translation that is clear and legible;
 - d) be endorsed by the Official Veterinarian with their original stamp, signature and date on every page (except permit to import) or be endorsed in the space allocated and all pages have paper based alternative security features; and
 - e) Copies of all documentation must be supplied to the Biosecurity Inspector at the port of entry at least one working day prior to arrival.

2.12 Biosecurity clearance

- (1) A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act 1993, may be issued when the semen and embryos from sheep and goats meet all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements in section 27 of the Act are met.

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Part 3: Specified Requirements for Identified Risk Organisms

Note: Requirements are for semen and embryo donors unless otherwise specified.

3.1 Bluetongue virus (BTV)

- (1) Donors must:
 - a) be resident in a BTV free country or zone in accordance with the requirements of the *OIE Code*, for at least the 60 days prior to and during collection; or
 - b) be resident during the seasonally free period in a BTV seasonally free zone in accordance with the requirements of the *OIE Code*, for at least the 60 days prior to collection; or
 - c) be resident in a vector-protected facility for at least the 60 days prior to collection and the facility must be regularly inspected and certified as being free from *Culicoides spp.* throughout the period when the donors are resident; or
 - d) be subjected to a BTV test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results.

3.2 Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever virus (CCHF)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country:
 - a) recognised by the Competent Authority as free from CCHF for the 21 days before collection; and
 - b) where CCHF is officially notifiable; or
- (2) Donors must be shorn (as required for tick inspection), including the head and lower legs, treated with an acaricide listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, and systematically inspected, under Official Veterinarian supervision, to ensure they are free from ticks before entering an approved vector-proof facility, where they were held for at least 21 days before the first collection. The facility must be regularly inspected and tick-free throughout the period when the donors were resident.

3.3 Foot and mouth disease virus (FMD)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country or zone that is free from FMD in accordance with the MPI List of FMD-Free Countries and Zones; or
- (2) Semen and embryo imports must comply with the FMD recommendations for ruminant semen¹ in the *OIE Code*.

3.4 Jaagsiekte sheep retrovirus (ovine pulmonary adenomatosis)

- (1) Donors must be resident since birth in countries recognised by the Competent Authority as free from jaagsiekte; or
- (2) Donors must be resident:
 - a) in a country where jaagsiekte is notifiable;
 - b) only in premises that have remained free from jaagsiekte for at least the 10 years prior to collection and no sheep/goat from a flock/herd of inferior health status has been introduced during that period; and

¹ The *OIE Code* does not currently provide FMD measures for ovine or caprine *in vivo* embryo trade; however MPI requires the semen measures be applied to embryo imports.

- c) in premises that include animals over 5 years of age; or
- (3) Donors must be subjected to a jaagsiekte test, listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results.

3.5 Maedi-visna virus

- (1) Donors must be resident since birth in countries recognised by the Competent Authority as free from maedi-visna; or
- (2) Donors must only reside with herds/flocks where maedi-visna has neither clinically nor serologically been diagnosed and where animals of inferior health status have not been introduced during the 3 years before collection for New Zealand; and either
 - a) Semen donors must comply with the OIE Code Chapter on collection and processing of small ruminant semen; or
 - b) Embryo donors:
 - i) over one year of age must be subjected to a maedi-visna test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results, during the 30 days prior to entering isolation;
 - ii) must be subjected to a maedi-visna test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results, at least 21 days after entering the collection herd/flock and at least annually thereafter while in the collection herd/flock.

3.6 Peste des petits ruminants virus (PPR)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a PPR free country or zone in accordance with the OIE Code for at least 21 days prior to and during collection; or
- (2) Embryo donors must comply with the OIE Code recommendations for embryos of small ruminants from PRR infected countries; or
- (3) Semen donors must comply with the OIE Code recommendations for semen of small ruminants from PPR infected countries; and either
 - a) Donors vaccinated against PPR must have been vaccinated between 21 and 120 days prior to semen collection; or
 - b) Unvaccinated donors must be subjected to a PPR test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL at least 21 days after semen collection, with negative results.

3.7 Rift Valley fever virus (RVF)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a RVF free country or zone in accordance with the OIE Code for at least the 30 days prior to collection; or
- (2) Donors from RVF infected countries or zones must comply with the OIE Code recommendations for *in vivo* derived ruminant embryos²; or
- (3) Donors must be held in a vector-proof facility for at least 30 days prior to and during collection and never show clinical signs of RVF. The facility must be inspected regularly and mosquito-free throughout the period when donors were resident.

² There are currently no OIE Code measures for ovine/caprine semen importation from RVF infected countries or zones; however MPI requires the embryo measures be applied to semen imports.

3.8 Capripox virus (sheep and goat pox)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a sheep and goat pox free country in accordance with the OIE Code for at least the 21 days prior to collection; or
- (2) Donors from sheep and goat pox infected countries must comply with the OIE Code recommendations for semen³ from sheep and goats.

3.9 Vesicular stomatitis virus (VS)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country or zone that is free from VS in accordance with the OIE Code for at least the 21 days prior to collection; or
- (2) Donors must be resident in a flock/herd where no case of VS was reported at the time of collection and for the 30 days after collection.

3.10 Wesselsbron virus

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country recognised by the Competent Authority as free from circulating Wesselsbron disease virus (serological surveys required) for at least the 21 days prior to collection; or
- (2) Donors must be resident in an establishment where Wesselsbron disease has not occurred for at least the 21 days prior to collection.

3.11 *Brucella melitensis* (caprine and ovine brucellosis)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country, zone, or flock/herd that is officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis in accordance with the OIE Code; or
- (2) Embryo donors must comply with the caprine and ovine brucellosis recommendations for importation of embryos/ova of sheep and goats in the OIE Code; or
- (3) Semen donors must comply with the caprine and ovine brucellosis recommendations for importation of semen of sheep and goats in the OIE Code.

3.12 *Mycoplasma capricolum subsp. Capripneumoniae* (contagious caprine pleuropneumonia)

- (1) For goats only:
 - a) Donors must be resident in a country that is free from contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) in accordance with the OIE Code; or
 - b) For at least the 45 days prior to collection, donors did not reside in a CCPP infected zone, in accordance with the OIE Code, and were not resident in a herd where CCPP had been officially reported during that time; and
 - i) Aliquots of semen or samples of embryos/oocytes or collection/washing fluids from each collection must be subjected to a CCBP test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results; or

³ There are currently no OIE Code sheep and goat pox recommendations for ovine/caprine embryo importation; however MPI requires the semen measures be applied to embryo imports.

- ii) Donors must be subjected to CCFPP complement fixation test, with negative results, in accordance with the OIE *Manual*, on two occasions, with an interval of 21 to 30 days between tests and the second test being within the 14 days prior to pre-entry isolation; and
 - i. Donors must be isolated from other domestic goats from the first test until the last date of collection.

3.13 *Mycoplasma agalactiae* (contagious agalactia)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country recognised by the Competent Authority as free from contagious agalactia for at least the 6 months prior to collection; or
- (2) Donors must be:
 - a) resident for at least the 6 months prior to collection only at a premises where no case of contagious agalactia is officially reported during that time; and
 - b) tested for *Mycoplasma agalactiae* using a test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results.

3.14 *Mycobacterium caprae* and *Mycobacterium bovis*

- (1) For goats only:
 - a) Donors must be resident in a country recognised by the Competent Authority as free from tuberculosis in goats for at least the 3 years prior to collection; or
 - b) Semen donors must comply with the OIE *Code* Chapter on collection and processing of small ruminant semen; or
 - c) Embryo donors must be subjected to a single comparative tuberculin test for tuberculosis prior to entry to the collection flock/herd, with negative results; and
 - i) All animals in the embryo collection flock/herd must be tested prior to entry and at least annually, with negative results.

3.15 *Chlamydia abortus* (enzootic abortion of ewes)

- (1) Donors must be resident in a country recognised by the Competent Authority as free from enzootic abortion of ewes (EAE) for at least the 2 years prior to collection; or
- (2) Semen donors must comply with the OIE *Code* Chapter on enzootic abortion of ewes for the importation of semen of sheep⁴; or
- (3) Embryo donors must be:
 - a) resident in a herd/flock that is free from EAE in accordance with the OIE *Code* for at least the past 2 years; and
 - b) prevented from contacting any animal of lower health status during that period of time; and either
 - i) Donors must be subjected to an EAE test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results; or
 - ii) Samples of embryos/oocytes or collection/washing fluids from each embryo collection must be subjected to an EAE test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results.

⁴ There are currently no *Chlamydia abortus* recommendations for caprine semen in the OIE *Code*; however MPI requires the ovine semen measures be applied to caprine semen imports.

3.16 *Coxiella burnetii* (Q Fever)

- (1) Donors must never have been confirmed positive for Q fever; and either
 - a) Donors must be subjected to a test for Q fever listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results; or
 - b) Semen or embryos/oocytes or collection/washing fluids from each collection must be subjected to a Q fever test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, with negative results.

3.17 Scrapie

- (1) For goats only:
 - a) Donors must be resident in a scrapie free country in accordance with the OIE Code; or
 - b) Donors must be resident in an establishment that has been maintained free from scrapie from commencement until conclusion of collection, in accordance with the OIE Code recommendations for a scrapie free establishment; or
 - c) Embryos must comply with the OIE Code recommendations for importation of *in vivo* derived goat embryos from countries or zones not considered free from scrapie.
- (2) For sheep only:
 - a) Semen donors must be resident in a scrapie free country in accordance with the OIE Code; or
 - b) Semen donors must be resident in an establishment that has been maintained free from scrapie from commencement until conclusion of collection, in accordance with the OIE Code recommendations for a scrapie free establishment; or
 - c) Semen donors must have the scrapie resistant genotypes – ARR/ARR, ARR/AHQ, ARR/ARH or ARR/ARQ. Laboratory evidence of the genotype is required.

Note: Section 2.8 of this IHS manages the risk for sheep embryos.

Appendix 1 – Definitions and Acronyms

For the purposes of this standard and the attached guidance document, terms used that are defined in the Act have the meanings set out there. The following specific definitions also apply:

Approved Embryo Collection Team

An embryo collection team demonstrated by the Veterinary Authority as having met the recommendations as described in the OIE Code.

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.

Donor(s)

Female animal(s) from which embryos are collected, or male animal(s) from which semen was collected.

Embryo Collection Flock/Herd

The flock the embryo donor is resident in at the time of embryo collection.

Germplasm

Animal genetic material.

Inspection

A visual examination by an MPI Inspector to detect the presence of biosecurity pests and contamination. An inspection does not require magnification but may require additional lighting if the inspection is carried out at night or within a building.

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.

Permit to Import

A permit issued by the Director General of MPI pursuant to section 24 (D)(2) of the Act.

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

For the purposes of this IHS vector-proof refers to 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 be vector screened and have risk management strategies to protect animals and the facility from any potential vector.

Veterinary Certificate

A certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of the OIE *Code* Chapter for certification procedures, describing the animal health and/or public health requirements which are fulfilled by the exported commodities

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