



Ref: CTO 2015 045 [G]

**Cats and Dogs: Time Interval between Parasite Treatments**

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of cats and dogs**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Marnie Thomas, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for cats and dogs to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard *Cats and Dogs from Approved Countries* [CATDOG.GEN dated 28 November 2014]:

For cats and dogs to Australia for a short-stay of 10 days or less: the first external parasite treatment for import into New Zealand is considered to be equivalent to the treatment given for export to Australia as long as it is effective against fleas and ticks. The second treatment needs to be given in the two days prior to shipment from Australia (as per the IHS) but can be given less than 2 weeks from the first treatment.

The two week interval between external parasite treatments that is specified in the IHS is to align with measures for *Babesia gibsoni*. *B. gibsoni* testing is not required for dogs on a short-stay of less than 10 days if treatment effective against fleas and ticks was given for export to Australia.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.