



Transparency - it's all about communication!



Sally Jennings
New Zealand



Role of the SPS Contact Point

- ▶ **Administrative role:**
 - Systems and procedures
- ▶ **Management role:**
 - Relationships with others
 - Access to technical expertise
 - Coordination and oversight
 - SPS policy knowledge

Communication

- ▶ Interagency agreement on policy
- ▶ General training on WTO and SPS agreement - what does it all mean to me!
- ▶ Training for standard authors to write WTO notifications

Translations

- ▶ Submit any translations to the Secretariat
- ▶ Work with other members to develop close working relationships to share translations
- ▶ Often get the idea of the text using Google Translate

Internet

- ▶ Meets the SPS Agreement obligation to publish notifications
- ▶ Allows for greater transparency
- ▶ Makes it easier for countries to obtain documents
- ▶ Reduces the amount of work involved in processing and fulfilling document requests
- ▶ Find a good place - for easy access

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NEW ZEALAND. IT'S OUR PLACE TO PROTECT

The Ministry for Primary Industries is charged with leadership of the New Zealand biosecurity system, protecting the health of New Zealanders and ensuring the welfare of our environment, flora and fauna.

**CHANGE IS HERE
NEW MPI WEBSITE**

MPI has a new website changing the way we provide information online.

Over the next year information from www.biosecurity.govt.nz will be moved to the new site.

If you can't find the information you are looking for it could already have moved to the new website.

Visit the new site

In the news
View all news stories >>

Policy, Laws & Agreements

Quicklinks
IMPORTERS & EXPORTERS

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Exporting
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→ Plant Compliance Programmes
→ Importing countries' phytosanitary requirements
→ ePhyto
→ Diseases Freedom Statement
→ Plant Exports Phytosanitary Certification Review

All registers, lists & indexes

Found Something?
To report suspected exotic disease or pests in animals, plants, fish or bees, call us on
0800 80 99 66

About us
Ministry for Primary Industries
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NEW ZEALAND
Phone: 0800 80 83 33
Fax: +64 4 894 0720

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Policy, Laws & Agreements

Biosecurity activities are guided and influenced by domestic law and international agreements and standards to which New Zealand is a signatory nation. High-level strategies set out our future direction. The Ministry for Primary Industries interprets and applies these guidelines at a more operational level through a series of policies, agreements and frameworks.

The Biosecurity Act 1993, administered by the Ministry for Primary Industries, provides the legislative framework, providing a range of powers, duties and obligations. Other legislation, however, may take precedence or need to be used in conjunction with this Act. The Ministry also enforces the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 in respect of 'new organisms' not yet present in New Zealand. A register of the locations of and location controls on conditionally released genetically modified (GM) crops can be found here.

International treaties and agreements set out principles, standards, criteria and recommendations for signatory nations. Many of these agreements are to safeguard trade, environmental or human rights.

To support the legal and international frameworks within which New Zealand operates, MAF Biosecurity New Zealand works with other biosecurity organisations to develop policy, guidelines and Memoranda of Understanding. These help set out the Crown's role, the participation of other parties, and further defines how the Ministry for Primary Industries works as a leader across and within the system.

Relevant Legislation

Biosecurity Act 1993
Further information on the Biosecurity Act can be found at: Biosecurity Act 1993

Further information on the Biosecurity Act Review 2010 can be found at: Review of Key Parts of the Biosecurity Act 1993

Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
Resource Management Act 1991
Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997
Animal Identification Act 1993
Animal Welfare Act 1999
Animal Products Act 1999
Conservation Act 1987, Reserves Act 1977, National Parks Act 1980, Marine Reserves Act 1971

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International Agreements & Standards

Consultation on International Standards

An essential component of New Zealand's role in international organisation is to input into the development of international standards.

Free Trade Agreements (FTA's)

Biosecurity New Zealand play a key role in the writing of the SPS Chapter in the development of FTA's.

International Treaties and Agreements

Biosecurity activity should be undertaken in accordance with international treaties and agreements that New Zealand has signed. Such agreements set out principles, standards, criteria and recommendations that should be followed. Many of these agreements are trade-based, facilitating the trading of goods between countries, or have an emphasis on the maintenance or enhancement of resources or values (e.g. rights of people, environmental safeguards). Such treaties and agreements are used to develop New Zealand law in the relevant area.

The most relevant international organisations and/or agreements in the biosecurity context are:

- World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) - setting the framework for trade and rules for managing risks from pests and diseases.
- The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) - a series of rules-based agreements setting out how signatory countries can trade goods with each other, is relevant for biosecurity. Agreements under GATT can have a sectoral focus (e.g. Agreement on Agriculture) and can be negotiated and reviewed over time and cover multiple clauses. Article 20 of GATT allows governments to act on trade in order to protect human, animal or plant life or health, provided they do not discriminate or use this as disguised protectionism.
- Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade tries to ensure that regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles.
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) acts as the host for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat. The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures implements the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) for plant-based trade. It undertakes the tasks outlined in the SPS Agreement in relation to the IPPC outlining actions to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. Like OIE, a National Plant Protection Organisation for New Zealand this is MAF) is responsible for a range of phytosanitary functions and for reporting.
- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) - animals-based trade; MAF's response, surveillance and testing policies and procedures for specific animal diseases draw heavily on, and seek to be compliant with, these Codes. MAF also has, as the New Zealand Government's

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Sanitary & Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement

The Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement (SPS) is the World Trade Organisation's agreed rules on how countries can protect the health of their people, animals and plants, while facilitating trade.

SPS New Zealand is responsible for fulfilling New Zealand's transparency obligations under the SPS agreement. It is the combination of the New Zealand SPS Notification Authority and National Enquiry Point.

View SPS-related documents:

- International Agreements on SPS agreement, what it covers, how it affects importers, exporters and the Government.
- Notifications of New Zealand SPS measures.
- A brief guide to government agencies in New Zealand responsible for generating SPS measures. It includes links to adopted SPS measures such as import health standards.
- SPS Policies, Procedures and Resources - includes procedural manual/handbooks, policy statements and WTO notification templates.

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http://www.mpi.govt.nz

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Growing and protecting New Zealand

We're helping to maximise export opportunities for our primary industries, improve sector productivity, increase sustainable resource use, and protect New Zealand from biological risk.

Exporting Importing Growing & producing
Processing Food safety Travel & recreation
Protection & response Funding & programmes
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FOOD ACT 2014 BLACK MARKET FISH FORESTRY KIWIFRUIT CLAIM

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http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing

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IMPORTING

QUICKFINDER

HOME: Importing

MPI works with importers to prevent unwanted pests and diseases entering the country. MPI is also working on reducing trade barriers. Learn about importing commodities to New Zealand.

Fees and charges
Many of MPI's fees and charges have changed. Find out more.

Import health standards
Search for the import health standard you'll need to import your commodity.

Browse - Importing

Overview
Overview of the importing process, access and trade into New Zealand, and at importing requirements, Import health standards, Food imports, Fees & charges - general

Agricultural compounds & veterinary medicines

Biological products & organisms

Fibre, skins & trophies
Fibre & leathers, Hides & skins, Ornamental animal products

Food
Dairy, Eggs, Fresh fruit & vegetables, Grains, seeds & nuts, Honey & bee products, Meat, Organics, Pork, Poultry, Processed food, Seafood, Therapeutic products & supplements, Wine & beverages

Live animals
Aquatic animals, Avian hatching eggs, Farm animals, Horses, Laboratory animals, Pets, Semen and embryos, Zoo animals

Plants
Cut flowers & foliage, Dried & preserved plant products, Growing media, Nursery stock, Seeds for sowing

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http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview

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IMPORTING

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Overview

MPI enforces controls on imported goods to make sure no unwanted pests or diseases enter the country, and that food is safe to eat. MPI is working hard to reduce trade barriers for importers without compromising our standards.

Customs website
All importers need to be aware of New Zealand Customs Service requirements.

Browse - Overview

Overview of the importing process

General importing requirements

Food imports
Imported food requirements, Advice for food importers

Fees & charges - general

Access and trade into New Zealand
Germac - Germplasm Advisory Committee, World Trade Organization notifications

Import health standards
Import risk analysis, Requesting a new import health standard, Equivalence decisions & reporting

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http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/access-and-trade-into-new-zealand/

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Overview

Overview of the importing process

Access and trade into New Zealand

Germac - Germplasm Advisory Committee

World Trade Organization notifications

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Import health standards

Food imports

Fees & charges - general

Access and trade into New Zealand

MPI works to protect New Zealand's primary industries from the biological risk of importing. We also make sure international trade rules are complied with without creating unnecessary barriers to trade. Find out more about how we're making import clearances faster without compromising biosecurity.

Keeping New Zealand and New Zealanders safe

We need tight regulation on what comes into the country to protect New Zealand from biological risk and keep New Zealand free from potentially harmful pests or organisms. MPI works closely with overseas governments, exporters, and importers to ensure products coming to New Zealand do not harbour unwanted organisms. We also need robust policies, criteria, and procedures to monitor the safety of imported food into New Zealand for human consumption.

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Key messages

- ▶ There is an obligation for WTO members to publish their SPS regulations
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Share translations
- ▶ Where possible use the internet as this allows for increased transparency and accessibility - but placement is important!