



Department of  
AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA



## DRAFT

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### ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY ON BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE)

(Originally adopted 16 March 1999, complete revision February 2002)

#### Notes:

1. This policy includes measures to address the animal health risks associated with BSE and the importation of various products. Additional conditions and restrictions, relating to other animal health issues, may have to be met.
2. This policy does not address the human health risks associated with the importation of *beef and beef products* specifically produced for human consumption. Policy concerning these products has been developed by the Australia and New Zealand Food Authority (ANZFA) and the Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC) and is administered through the *Imported Food Control Act 1992*.
3. Throughout this document references are made to Office International des Epizooties (OIE) International Animal Health Code (2001) *Articles* or *Appendices*. These are referred to as *Code* or *Article 2.3.13.3*. etc.

#### DEFINITIONS:

##### *Beef and beef products*

Products which contain bovine tissue (including cattle, buffalo and bison). This includes meat, bone and offal but excludes milk, dairy products, gelatine, collagen, tallow and dicalcium phosphate.

##### *BSE risk materials*

Specified risk materials which are: the skull, brains, eyes, tonsils, vertebral column and spinal cord including dorsal root ganglia of bovine animals aged over 12 months, and the intestines from the duodenum to the rectum of bovine animals of all ages and mechanically recovered meat. In addition, where

- products originating from the *BSE high or low incidence countries or zones*: the entire head (excluding the tongue), the trigeminal ganglia, the thymus, the spleen, and spinal cord of bovine animals aged over 6 months.

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- *Beef and/or beef products* from animals killed after stunning by means of a gas injected into the cranial cavity or killed instantaneously by the same method, or slaughtered by laceration of central nervous tissue by means of an elongated rod-shaped instrument introduced into the cranial cavity (pithing).

***Meat meal***

Means any ruminant derived by-product of the meat trade consisting of meat, bone and other tissue.

***Case***

Means a bovine animal affected by BSE and confirmed by histological techniques or other officially recognised tests.

***Ante- and post-mortem veterinary inspection***

Means the inspection by a veterinarian prior to, and following, the slaughter of animals at abattoirs.

***A BSE free country or zone***

In accordance with Article 2.3.13.2.

***A BSE provisionally free country or zone where no indigenous case has been reported***

In accordance with Article 2.3.13.3.

***A BSE provisionally free country or zone where at least one indigenous case has been reported***

In accordance with Article 2.3.13.4.

***Country or zone with a low incidence of BSE***

In accordance with Article 2.3.13.5.

***Country or zone with a high incidence of BSE***

In accordance with Article 2.3.13.6.

**IMPORT POLICY:**

**Note:** Where the product is derived from bovine animals that have lived in countries or zones with differing BSE status the product will be required to be certified in accordance with the requirements for the country or zone with the highest BSE risk.

**Products which may be imported without restrictions relating to BSE:**

Milk and milk products for pet food

Bovine semen

Protein free tallow (maximum level of impurities of 0.15% in weight) and derivatives made from this tallow (Note: Conditions apply to tallow that does not meet these specifications, see below); Dicalcium phosphate (DCP) [with no trace of protein or fat], except for ruminant derived DCP for use as feed for livestock.

Hides and skins, and

Gelatin and collagen prepared exclusively from hides and skins.

## **Cattle (and other bovines)**

May be imported only from:

- 1 *BSE free countries or zones*, provided that the cattle (or other bovines) to be exported and their parents have lived only in *BSE free countries or zones*.
- 2 *BSE provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous cases have been reported*, provided that the cattle for export (including other bovines):
  - i) were born after the date from which the ban on the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants was banned and effectively enforced;
  - ii) are permanently identified enabling them to be traced back to the dam and herd of origin and are not the progeny of BSE suspect or confirmed females.

## **Bovine embryos**

May be imported from:

- 1 *BSE free countries or zones* if it can be certified that the female donors have lived only in *BSE free countries or zones*.
- 2 *BSE provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported* provided it can be certified that:
  - i) the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants is banned nationally, and
  - ii) the *embryos* were collected, processed and stored strictly in accordance with *Code* (Appendix 3.3.1.).
- 3 *BSE provisionally free countries or zones where at least one indigenous case has been reported* provided it can be certified that:
  - i) the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants is banned nationally, and
  - ii) the *embryos* for export are derived from females which:
    - are permanently identified enabling them to be traced back to the dam and herd of origin;
    - are not the progeny of BSE suspect or confirmed females;
    - were not suspected of being affected with BSE at the time of embryo collection;and
  - iii) the *embryos* were collected, processed and stored strictly in accordance with *Code* (Appendix 3.3.1.).
- 4 *Countries or zones with a low incidence of BSE* provided it can be certified that:
  - i) the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants is banned nationally, and
  - ii) *embryos* for export were derived from females which:

- are permanently identified enabling them to be traced back to the dam and herd of origin;
  - are not the progeny of BSE affected females;
  - were not suspected of being affected with BSE at the time of embryo collection; and
- either
- were born after the national ban on feeding ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants.
- or
- have never been fed ruminant-derived *meat meal* and were born and remained in herds in which no *case* of BSE was confirmed during the preceding 7 years and which contains only cattle born on the farm or coming from a herd of equal status;

iii) the embryos were collected, processed and stored strictly in accordance with *Code* (Appendix 3.3.1.).

5 *Countries or zones with a high incidence of BSE* provided it can be certified

- i) affected animals and, for females, their last progeny born within 2 years prior to or after the onset of clinical symptoms, were slaughtered and completely destroyed, and
- ii) the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants is banned nationally, and
- iii) embryos for export were derived from females which:
- are permanently identified enabling them to be traced back to the dam and herd of origin;
  - are not the progeny of BSE affected females;
  - were not suspected of being affected with BSE at the time of embryo collection; and
- either
- were born after the national ban on feeding ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants.
- or
- have never been fed ruminant-derived *meat meal* and were born and remained in herds in which no *case* of BSE was confirmed during the preceding 7 years and which contains only cattle born on the farm or coming from a herd of equal status;
- iv) the embryos were collected, processed and stored strictly in accordance with *Code* (Appendix 3.3.1.).

**Beef (bone-in or deboned) and beef products for pet food (ie not for human consumption)**

These products may be imported if derived from bovine animals that have:

- 1 *lived only in BSE free countries or zones*
- 2 *lived only in BSE provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported and the feeding of ruminant-derived meat meal to ruminants is banned nationally*

- 3 lived only in *BSE provisionally free countries or zones where at least one case has been reported*, provided the beef and/or beef product, and
- i) affected animals and, for females, their last progeny born within 2 years prior to or after the onset of clinical symptoms, were slaughtered and completely destroyed;
  - ii) the feeding of ruminant-derived *meat meal* to ruminants is banned nationally;
  - iii) *antemortem inspection* is carried out on all bovine animals, and
  - iv) the beef and beef products destined for export do not include ruminant-derived *meat meal* or *BSE risk materials*.

#### **Ruminant-derived *meat meal* and feedstuffs containing such meal**

These commodities (including fertilisers) may only be imported from New Zealand. However, pet food (ie not for human consumption) containing ruminant-derived *meat meal* may be imported from *BSE free or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported*.

#### **Milk and milk products intended for stock feed**

These commodities can only be imported from *BSE free or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported*, pending further research indicating negligible risk when fed to cattle.

#### **Specified risk materials**

May only be imported from *BSE free countries or zones or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported*.

#### **Gelatin and collagen prepared from bones and intended for animal feed**

May be imported provided the bones were derived from animals that had lived only in *BSE free countries or zones or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported*.

#### **Tallow and tallow derivatives (other than protein-free tallow as defined in Article 2.3.13.7.) intended for animal feed, pharmaceutical preparations for animals or fertilisers.**

May be imported if it can be certified that the animals from which the tallow is derived lived only in a *BSE free countries or zones or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported*.

**Biological materials (biologicals) of bovine origin for *in vivo* animal use, including cell lines, vaccine seed material, products for implantation and other products destined for direct or indirect *in vivo* use, including catgut suture material.**

May be imported only from *BSE free countries or zones or provisionally free countries or zones where no indigenous case has been reported.*

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