

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/AUS/131/Rev.1  
30 November 2001

(01-6120)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

### Revision

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>AUSTRALIA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Australia New Zealand Food Authority (ANZFA)
3.	<p><b>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable).</b> All beef and beef-based products, defined as tissue from cattle, buffalo and bison, but excluding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) collagen from bovine skins and hides (including sausage casings produced from this type of collagen);</li><li>(b) bovine fats and bovine tallow which contain a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% in weight, and derivatives made from this tallow;</li><li>(c) gelatine from hides and skins; and</li><li>(d) milk and other dairy products sourced from bovines.</li></ul> <p><b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> All countries</p>
4.	<p><b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE): human health requirements for the importation of beef and beef products (certification requirements);</li><li>(b) Imports of beef and beef products – implications for human health and rationale for Australia's policy;</li><li>(c) Australian questionnaire to assess BSE country freedom.</li></ul> <p>Documents available at <a href="http://www.anzfa.gov.au">www.anzfa.gov.au</a>.</p>
5.	<p><b>Description of content:</b> A new national food standard within the <i>Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</i> has been agreed to by the Food Standards Council to replace the interim measure announced by Australia on 5 January 2001 (G/SPS/N/AUS/125).</p> <p>A system for the certification of beef products from countries intending to export those products to Australia has been implemented to ensure that all countries comply with the BSE Standard.</p> <p>The certification system will risk categorize countries (from "A" to "D") that apply to export beef and beef products to Australia. This categorization process will be undertaken by the Australian BSE Country Categorization Committee (ABCCC), which has been established by ANZFA.</p>

<p>The categorization system assesses the potential that BSE is present in the cattle population of the exporting country and whether appropriate steps have been implemented to ensure that its cattle are free from BSE. These assessments will be based on information supplied by countries in response to a questionnaire. The certification requirements will depend on the outcome of this categorization process.</p> <p>Counties with cases of indigenous BSE in their cattle populations will be allocated to category D, whereby consignments of beef and beef products cannot be imported into Australia.</p> <p>Countries which have no indigenous cases of BSE but have not yet been categorized by the ABCCC, are not permitted to export to Australia beef and beef products, or food containing beef or beef products as an ingredient. This situation will remain until a completed questionnaire has been received and assessed by the ABCCC to categorize the country with respect to BSE risk.</p>
<p><b>6. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests</p>
<p><b>7. An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</p>
<p><b>8. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> Subclause 7(2) and 7(3) in Standard C1 in Volume 1 and clause 11(1) and 11(2) in Standard 2.2.1 in Volume 2 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.</p> <p>Available in English at <a href="http://www.anzfa.gov.au">www.anzfa.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>9. Proposed date of adoption:</b> Adopted on 16 September 2001, as notified in G/SPS/N/AUS/131 of 25 July 2001 (inadvertently notified as an emergency measure).</p>
<p><b>10. Proposed date of entry into force:</b> 16 September 2001 (as per G/SPS/N/AUS/131)</p>
<p><b>11. Final date for comments:</b> <b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>
<p><b>12. Texts available from:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>