

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZL/153  
10 August 2001

(01-3971)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>NEW ZEALAND</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
3.	<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> Pig meat products. <b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> Canada, Denmark, Mexico (state of Sonora), United States
4.	<b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b> "Information note for WTO Members - importation of pig meat products from Canada, Denmark, Mexico and the United States" (63 pages) (available in English)
5.	<b>Description of content:</b> An information note for WTO Members with copies of the affected import health standards attached. The note outlines in more detail New Zealand's provisional measures for the importation of pig meat due to the risk of introducing porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome. New Zealand intends to revise the existing import health standards for uncooked pig meat and reissue amended standards on 1 September 2001. The amended standards will provide for the cooking of imported uncooked pig meat in transitional facilities.
6.	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
7.	<p><b>Nature of the urgent problem(s):</b> A number of countries including Canada, Denmark, Mexico (state of Sonora) and the United States of America, for which current import health standards exist, have a disease called porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS). This disease is not present in New Zealand, Australia or Sweden. Provisional measures have been taken following the consideration of new research data from the Netherlands (commissioned by Australia) which indicates that the virus can be spread to healthy animals if they eat sufficient quantities of the uncooked meat. Following receipt of this research data, MAF Biosecurity began a reassessment of the risks of introducing PRRS into New Zealand in imported pig meat.</p> <p>In accordance with the international (OIE) guidelines for risk analysis (<i>International Animal Health Code</i>, Chapter 1.3.2) the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has completed the release assessment (refer Article 1.3.2.4) as part of its draft risk analysis. This release assessment concludes that there is a risk of introducing the PRRS virus in uncooked pig meat from countries where the disease is endemic.</p> <p>The new import conditions introduce cooking as a risk-mitigating measure. Cooking may take place either: (a) pre-border i.e. in the exporting country; or (b) in a transitional facility in New Zealand. The new measures will apply to imports of uncooked pig meat products</p>

<p>(such as fresh, chilled or frozen pig meat, and frozen pig byproducts) from Canada, Denmark, Mexico and/or the USA.</p> <p>Products already en route to New Zealand will be permitted entry provided they arrive on or before 31 August 2001. It is proposed that from 1 September all pig meat products from countries affected by PRRS must be cooked before they can be given biosecurity clearance (i.e. before the products can be marketed in New Zealand).</p> <p>New Zealand is working to complete its draft risk analysis. Further import health standards that facilitate trade and manage the risk to New Zealand from PRRS will be developed as required and New Zealand's provisional measures may change as a result.</p>
<p><b>8. An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [ X ].</b></p> <p><b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b> There is no international standard, guideline or recommendation for PRRS. The release assessment has been conducted in accordance with the international (OIE) guidelines for risk analysis (<i>International Animal Health Code</i>, Chapter 1.3.2.)</p>
<p><b>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> Draft risk analysis for porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus in chilled and frozen pig meat (2001) (available in English)</p>
<p><b>10. Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable):</b> Proposed 1 September 2001</p>
<p><b>11. Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b>  <b>[ X ] National notification authority, [ ] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>Comments: Dr. Barbara Christensen  National Advisor, International Trade, MAF Biosecurity Authority  PO Box 2526  101-103 The Terrace  Wellington  New Zealand</p> <p>Tel: +64 4 498 9807  Fax +64 4 474 427  Email: <a href="mailto:sps@maf.govt.nz">sps@maf.govt.nz</a></p>