



14 March 2018

To: The Competent Authority of a country approved to export cats and dogs to New Zealand

Urgent canine influenza measure added to import requirements for cats and dogs to New Zealand

The New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (NZ MPI) wishes to advise competent authorities in countries approved to export cats and dogs to New Zealand that the Import Health Standard for Cats and Dogs (CATDOG.GEN) has been urgently amended to include the follow clause:

Canine influenza

For at least 21 days prior to shipment:

- a) The cat or dog was not kept in a place where there were cats or dogs showing clinical signs of infectious respiratory disease; and
- b) The cat or dog showed no clinical signs of infectious respiratory disease.

NZ MPI would like to request that competent authorities either ensure that they are using the latest version of the model veterinary certificates for export to New Zealand from the MPI website, or urgently update their own export certificates for cats and dogs to New Zealand to include this clause.

<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/live-animals/pets/steps-to-importing-cats-and-dogs/>

The urgent amendment will be notified to the WTO (World Trade Organisation).

We have become aware, that since an outbreak of canine influenza occurred in a New Zealand quarantine facility, that operators of these privately-owned facilities may decide, for the purpose of protecting their own business, to require vaccination for dogs from countries where canine influenza is present.

Please do not hesitate to make contact if any further information is required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Pharo', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Howard Pharo
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Animal and Animal Products
Regulation and Assurance