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New Zealand

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

This report lists the major export certificates and other documentation required by the Government of New Zealand for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products. New Zealand's import requirements for food and agricultural products are complex and change frequently. Therefore, this report focuses on the certificate requirements for U.S. products with the strongest export potential. Sections Updated: Section I, III, IV, V.

DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Wellington, New Zealand for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

Please contact this office if you have any comments, corrections or suggestions about the material contained in this report:

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Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government

Summary

The Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) is the key organization that regulates food imported into New Zealand. The MPI has the lead role in biosecurity protection (e.g. preventing unwanted pests and diseases from being imported into New Zealand and controlling, managing or eradicating pests should they arrive). The Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is responsible for setting food standards that govern the content and labeling of foods sold in both New Zealand and Australia. The standards also cover food composition, contaminants, and microbiological limits.

New Zealand has strict biosecurity rules. Unprocessed products cannot be imported into New Zealand unless an Import Health Standard (IHS) has been developed. Import health standards specify the biosecurity requirements that must be met for trade to occur. Information on import health standards for specific products can be found at <http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/import-health-standards/>

In March 2015, the New Zealand government approved the [Food Act 2014](#), which replaced Food Act 1981. This new Act came into force on March 1, 2016. The Food Act 2014 promotes food safety by focusing on the processes of food production versus focusing on the premises where food is made. A central feature of the new Act is a sliding scale where businesses that are higher risk, from a food safety point of view, will operate under more stringent food safety requirements than lower-risk food businesses.

The [Food Act 2014](#) introduced some fundamental changes to New Zealand's domestic food regulatory regime. It aims to provide an efficient, effective, and risk-based food regulatory regime that manages food safety and suitability issues, improves business certainty, and minimizes compliance costs for

business. Information on the Act can be found at: <http://www.foodsafety.govt.nz/policy-law/food-act-2014/>

The Act introduced the following food safety measures:

- Food control plans (FCPs) for higher-risk activities.
- National programs for lower-risk activities.

Importer Registration

A food importer is required to register with the Joint Border Management System in New Zealand. Only a New Zealand based individual or a company can register for importation of food products. The registration of a person or a company is deemed to be a registered importer under Section 438 of the Act, and this registration is valid for a year.

U.S. exporters should work very closely with their New Zealand importer to make sure that *all* conditions are met *before* shipping any product. Failure to do so may result in delays for the product entering the country .

Further information regarding New Zealand food laws, food labeling and packing requirements for imported foods in New Zealand can be found in Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report. This report can be found under the Export Assistance category/FAIRS/New Zealand on FAS' home page:

<http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Lists/Advanced%20Search/AllItems.aspx>

Export Certification Requirements

The high-risk products imported in New Zealand are required to meet Import Health Standard (IHS) requirements set out by the Ministry of Primary Industries. These requirements can be found at: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/law-and-policy/requirements/import-health-standards/>. New Zealand considers high-risk products as any product/material that may constitute, harbor, or contain an organism that may cause unwanted harm to natural or physical resources or to human health in New Zealand such as:

- Plants and plant products
- Animals and animal products
- Unprocessed foods
- Biological products

The table below provides the export certificate requirements for U.S. food and agricultural products deemed as having strong potential in the New Zealand market. Apart from meeting Import Health Standard requirements, exporters are required to meet a range of other criteria specific to each commodity, such as packaging requirements, pre-clearance (if applicable), treatment options, and container conditions.

Examples of New Zealand Export Certification Requirements

Export Certificates and Attestations Required by New Zealand				
Products	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requested By
Peanuts	No phytosanitary certificate required	No certification or inspection required by Biosecurity New Zealand if packaged for direct retail sale or in packages up to and including 10 kilograms. If more than 10 kilograms, inspection is required. Please check the New Zealand Import Health Standard (IHS) (Section 9.8) at Stored products for Human Consumption for more information.	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz
	Certificate of analysis from USDA or State Department of Agriculture is required	Consignments are tested at intervals depending on the frequency of import. In all cases, a certificate of analysis is required for each consignment. Please check Import Health Standard requirements at Stored products for Human Consumption	Peanuts are considered a high risk food because they have been found to contain mycotoxins, mold and insects.	Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) www.mpi.govt.nz Please also see info on: Prescribed Foods and Food Notice
Roasted/ Salted Pistachios	No phytosanitary certificate required	No certification or inspection required by Biosecurity New Zealand if packaged for direct retail sale or in packages up to and including 10 kilograms. If more than 10 kilograms, inspection is required. Please check the Import Health Standard (Section 9.8) requirements at Stored products for Human Consumption for more information.	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) www.mpi.govt.nz
	Certificate of analysis from USDA or a State Department of Agriculture is required	Consignments are tested at intervals depending on the frequency of import. In all cases, a certificate of analysis is required for each consignment. Please check Import Health Standard requirements at Stored products for Human Consumption .	Pistachios are considered a high risk food because they have been found to contain mycotoxins, mold and insects.	Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) www.mpi.govt.nz Please also see info on: Prescribed Foods and Food Notice
Walnuts, Pecans, Almonds	No phytosanitary certificate required	No certification or inspection required by MPI, if packaged for direct retail sale or in packages up to and including 10 kilograms. If more than 10 kilograms, inspection is required. Check the Import Health Standard (Section 9.8) requirements at Stored	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz

		products for Human Consumption or more information.		
Dried Fruits	No phytosanitary certificate required	There are no certification or inspection requirements for dried, freeze dried, dehydrated or flaked fruit and vegetables that are commercially manufactured or produced and listed in the Plants Biosecurity Index database , except for those that may have seeds that are entered as “Entry Prohibited” and those listed in sections 9.3, 9.4 and 9.7. Check Import Health Standard requirements at Stored products for Human Consumption import health standard.	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz
Stone Fruits (California Nectarines and Peaches)	Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is required	Please see section 6.1.4 of the New Zealand Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Peach and Nectarine from California regarding phytosanitary certificate requirements.	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz
	Additional declarations are required on the phytosanitary certificate	APHIS must provide the additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate: "The peaches and nectarines in this consignment have: - been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free of any visually detectable regulated pests specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. And, - been treated in accordance with Appendix 1(b) of the Workplan between NZ MAF and APHIS, USDA. And, - undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those Risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MAF. Or, - been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from those Risk group 2 regulated pests specified by MPI." Please check section 6.1.5 of Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Peach and Nectarine from California for the most recent requirements.		
Table Grapes (State of	Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal	Please see section 6.1.5 of the New Zealand import Health Standard requirements at Table Grapes from the	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz

California)	Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is required.	State of California for information on phytosanitary requirements.		
	Additional declarations required on the phytosanitary certificate	APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: (i) This is to certify that the table grapes described herein have been inspected according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand MAF and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand MAF, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests; AND (ii) The table grapes in this consignment have been treated in accordance with Appendix 1(b) of the Workplan between MPI and USDA, APHIS. AND (iii) Treated in accordance with the measures specified by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand for the access of host material of <i>Drosophila suzukii</i> from the United States of America. Please check section 6.1.5 of New Zealand Import Health Standard requirements at Table Grapes from the State of California for the most recent requirements.		
Cherries (State of California)	Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is required.	Please see section 4.1 Import Health Standard requirements at http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1704 for information on phytosanitary requirements.	Biosecurity	Ministry of Primary Industries www.mpi.govt.nz
	Additional declarations required on the phytosanitary certificate	APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: The cherries in this consignment have: (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests specified by the New Zealand Ministry of		

		<p>Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> OR been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1 of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly</p> <p>Please see page 372 of Import Health Standard requirements at http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1704 for information on additional declaration on Phytosanitary certificate</p>		
Cherries - <i>Prunus avium</i> (States of Washington, Oregon and Idaho)	Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) required	Please see section 6.1.5 of Import Health Standard requirements at http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1704 for information on Phytosanitary requirements.	Biosecurity	MPI www.mpi.govt.nz
	Additional declarations on the phytosanitary certificate required	<p>APHIS must also provide the following additional declarations: (i) This is to certify that the cherries described herein have been inspected according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand MAF and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand MAF, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.; (ii) This is to certify that the cherries in this consignment have undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those regulated high impact pests specified by NZ MAF.</p> <p>Please see section 6.1.6 of New Zealand Import Health Standard requirements at</p>		

		http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/1704 for information on additional phytosanitary requirements.		
Fruits (Mandarin/ tangerine, orange, apricot, pears, plums)	Phytosanitary certificates issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) required for all fruit and vegetable consignments entering New Zealand	Please see section 2.1 and 2.2 of the Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for information on phytosanitary certificates.	Biosecurity	MPI www.mpi.govt.nz
	Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate required – Mandarin/ Tangerine	APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: Mandarins/tangerines in this consignment have: (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Aleurocanthus woglumi</i> ; <i>Spiroplasma citri</i> [VO] ; <i>Xanthomonas campestris</i> OR been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Aleurocanthus woglumi</i> ; <i>Spiroplasma citri</i> [VO]; <i>Xanthomonas campestris</i> AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1 of the arrangement between Ministry of Primary Industries and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America . Please see page 364 of Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for more information.		

	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate are required – Orange</p>	<p>APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: The oranges in this consignment have: (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Aleurocanthus woglumi</i>; <i>Bemisia tabaci</i> [strain] <i>Thrips palmi</i> OR been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Aleurocanthus woglumi</i> <i>Bemisia tabaci</i> [strain] <i>Thrips palmi</i> AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1(b) of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America</p> <p>Please see page 365 of Import Health requirements at Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for more information.</p>		
	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate required – Apricot</p>	<p>APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: Apricots in this consignment have: (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> OR been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix</p>		

		<p>1 of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see page 371 of Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for more information</p>		
	Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate – Plums	<p>APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates: The plums in this consignment have: (i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> OR been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1 of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see page 374 of Import Health Standard requirements at Fresh Fruit and Vegetables for more information.</p>		
	Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate- Nectarine/Peach	<p>The nectarines/peaches in this consignment have: i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against those risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MAF. OR been sourced from an area free (verified</p>		

		<p>by an official detection survey) from those risk group 2 regulated pests specified by NZ MAF.</p> <p>Note: Combinations of treatment and area freedom are permissible for the aforementioned RG2 pests. AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1 (b) of the Workplan between NZ MAF and APHIS, USDA.</p> <p>AND (vi) treated in accordance with the measures specified by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand for the access of host material of <i>Drosophila suzukii</i> from the United States of America.</p>		
	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate – Pears (State of Washington)</p>	<p>The pears in this consignment have:</p> <p>(i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.</p> <p>AND (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i></p> <p>AND (iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1(d) of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see Import Health Standard requirements at Pears from the State of Washington for more information.</p>		
	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate – Pears (State of California)</p>	<p>APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates:</p> <p>The pears in this consignment have:</p> <p>(i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New</p>		

		<p>Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>(ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i></p> <p>AND</p> <p>(iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1(b) of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see New Zealand Import Health Standard requirements at Pears from the State of California for more information.</p>		
	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate – Pears (State of Idaho)</p>	<p>APHIS must provide the following additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificates:</p> <p>The pears in this consignment have:</p> <p>(i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND</p> <p>(ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i> OR</p> <p>been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i> AND</p> <p>(iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1(h) of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see Import Health Standard requirements at Pears from the State of</p>		

		Idaho for more information.		
	Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate – Pears (State of Oregon)	<p>The pears in this consignment have:</p> <p>(i) been inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any visually detectable quarantine pests, specified by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. AND</p> <p>(ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Conotrachelus nenuphar</i> AND</p> <p>(iii) treated in accordance with Appendix 1(i) of the Arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service concerning the access of host material of fruit fly species of economic significance into New Zealand from the United States of America .</p> <p>Please see Import Health Standard requirements at Pears from the State of Oregon for more information.</p>		
Grains/ Seeds for Human Con- sumption	<p>Phytosanitary Certificate</p> <p>Additional declarations are required depending on the product</p> <p>Grains/Seed Analysis Certificate</p>	<p>U.S. exporters must meet certification requirements for individual products. Various options from pre-inspection certification to post-entry treatments are available under specific grain and seed categories. Each grain and seed product has different certification requirements.</p> <p>Please see New Zealand Import Health Standard requirements at Grains and Seeds and import regulations.</p>	Biosecurity	<p>MPI</p> <p>www.mpi.govt.nz</p>
Shelf Stable Pet Foods with Bovine Meat	No phytosanitary certificate required	Please see section 7.2 of the import health standard at Pet Food for information on canned/retorted pet foods containing beef/other bovine meat products/by-products and other animal products.	Biosecurity	<p>MPI</p> <p>www.mpi.govt.nz</p>
	Zoosanitary certificate required	Please see section 10 of the Import Health Standard at Pet Food or a sample Zoosanitary certificate.		
Seeds for Sowing	Basic Requirements	<p>Only species of seeds and plants (including bulbs, cuttings, and tissue cultures) can only be imported into New Zealand listed at Plants Biosecurity Index</p> <p>All seeds for sowing imported into New</p>	Biosecurity	<p>MPI</p> <p>www.mpi.govt.nz</p>

	<p>Phytosanitary certificate issued by APHIS required</p> <p>Additional declarations required depending on the type of seed</p> <p>Seed Analysis Certificate</p>	<p>Zealand must meet the Basic requirements (section 2.2.2) of the New Zealand Import Health Standard at Seeds for Sowing, as well as any specific requirements as indicated by the Biosecurity Index.</p> <p>Phytosanitary certificate is required certifying that seed for sowing has been inspected by USDA and found to be free of any visually detectable regulated pests, and conforms to New Zealand's current import requirements.</p> <p>For additional declaration, please see section 3.5 of the Import Health Standard at Seeds for sowing.</p> <p>Please see section 2.2.2.4 section of the Import Health Standard requirements at Seeds for sowing for seed analysis certificate requirements</p>		
Frozen Pig by-products	Zoosanitary (USDA/FSIS) certificate required	Please see section 12 of Import Health Standard at requirements at Pig Meat for Human Consumption for a sample Zoosanitary certificate.	Biosecurity	MPI www.mpi.govt.nz
Fresh Pig meat – 3kgs or less	Zoosanitary (USDA/FSIS) certificate required	Please see section 11 of Import Health Standard requirements at Pig Meat for Human Consumption for a sample Zoosanitary certificate.	Biosecurity	MPI www.mpi.govt.nz

Section II - Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

See table in Section I.

Section III - Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

Please refer to the table under Section I for required export certificates requirements and additional declarations needed for exporting food products. Import Health Standards for high risk products can be found at New Zealand Ministry of Primary Industries website at:
<http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/import-health-standards/>

Section IV- Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

Entry requirements are set out in the Ministry of Primary Industries' Import Health Standards. It can be found at: <http://mpi.govt.nz/importing/overview/import-health-standards/>.

Original documents relating to the shipment must accompany each shipment. Most certificates are valid for one shipment only and are required to be issued by Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Section V - Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

U.S. exporters are required to meet both biosecurity and food safety requirements. For more information on New Zealand's food safety requirements, please visit Ministry of Primary Industries webpage at www.mpi.govt.nz.

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