

**Required Report:** Required - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards  
Export Certificate Report

**Country:** New Zealand

**Post:** Wellington

**Report Category:** 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: Certificate list.

## SECTION I. LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED:

### Summary

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is the key organization that regulates food imported into New Zealand. 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. The advantage of FSANZ is that the regulations it sets out cover both Australia and New Zealand. Meaning it is cost effective to export to both markets simultaneously, due to product labels being virtually identical in both countries.

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 [Import Health Standards](#).

The [Food Act 2014](#), which replaced Food Act 1981, 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 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 Act 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 is found at [Food Safety NZ Food Act](#).

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 a registered importer under Section 438 of the Act, and this registration is valid for a year.

U.S. exporters must work very closely with their New Zealand importer to make sure that *all* conditions are met *before* shipping any product. If you miss a condition it may result in delays or rejection for the product entering the country .

For more information on food imports in New Zealand [click here](#).

## 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: [Law and Policy – 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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a> for more information.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
	Certificate of Free Sale 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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a>	Peanuts are considered a high-risk food because they have been found to contain mycotoxins, mold and insects.	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)</a> Please also see info on: <a href="#">Prescribed Foods</a> and <a href="#">Food Notice</a>
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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a> for more information.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)</a>
	Certificate of Free Sale 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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a> .	Pistachios are considered a high-risk food because they have been found to contain mycotoxins, mold and insects.	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)</a> Please also see info on: <a href="#">Prescribed Foods</a> and <a href="#">Food Notice</a>
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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a> or more information.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>

<b>Dried Fruits</b>	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 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 <a href="#">Stored products for Human Consumption</a> import health standard.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
<b>Stone Fruits (California Nectarines and Peaches)</b>	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 <a href="#">Fresh Peach and Nectarine from California</a> regarding phytosanitary certificate requirements.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
	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 <a href="#">Fresh Peach and Nectarine from California</a> for the most recent requirements.		

<b>Table Grapes (State of California)</b>	Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is required.	Please see section 6.1.5 of the New Zealand import Health Standard requirements at <a href="#">Table Grapes from the State of California</a> for information on phytosanitary requirements.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
	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; <b>AND</b> (ii) The table grapes in this consignment have been treated in accordance with Appendix 1(b) of the Workplan between MPI and USDA, APHIS. <b>AND</b> (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 <a href="#">Table Grapes from the State of California</a> for the most recent requirements.		
<b>Cherries (State of California)</b>	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 <a href="#">here</a> for information on phytosanitary requirements.	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
	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 Agriculture and Forestry. <b>AND</b> (ii) undergone appropriate pest control		

		<p>activities that are effective against: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>been sourced from an area free (verified by an official detection survey) from: <i>Monilinia fructigena</i> <b>AND</b></p> <p>(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 <a href="#">here</a> for information on additional declaration on Phytosanitary certificate</p>		
<p><b>Cherries - <i>Prunus avium</i> (States of Washington, Oregon and Idaho)</b></p>	<p>Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) required</p>	<p>Please see section 6.1.5 of Import Health Standard requirements <a href="#">here</a> for information on Phytosanitary requirements.</p>	Biosecurity	<a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a>
	<p>Additional declarations on the phytosanitary certificate required</p>	<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.;</p> <p>(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 <a href="#">here</a> for information on additional phytosanitary requirements.</p>		

<p><b>Fruits (Mandarin/ tangerine, orange, apricot, pears, plums)</b></p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Please see section 2.1 and 2.2 of the Import Health Standard requirements at <a href="#">Fresh Fruit and Vegetables</a> for information on phytosanitary certificates.</p>	<p>Biosecurity</p>	<p><a href="#">Ministry for Primary Industries</a></p>
	<p>Additional declaration required on the phytosanitary certificate required –</p> <p><b>Mandarin/ Tangerine</b></p>	<p>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. <b>AND</b> (ii) undergone appropriate pest control activities that are effective against: <i>Aleurocanthus woglumi</i> ; <i>Spiroplasma citri</i> [VO] ; <i>Xanthomonas campestris</i> <b>OR</b> 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> <b>AND</b> (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 .</p> <p>Please see page 364 of Import Health Standard requirements at <a href="#">Fresh Fruit and Vegetables</a> for more information.</p>		



## **SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S):**

See table in Section I.

## **SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATES:**

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 for Primary Industries website [here](#).

## **SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

For the United States, MPI will accept official certificates (from the appropriate government agency) as assurance the food is safe. The certificate must be from the country of origin to New Zealand. Certificates issued for other countries are not accepted.

Entry requirements are set out in the Ministry for Primary Industries' Import Health Standards. It can be found [here](#).

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 for Primary Industries webpage [here](#).

Further information regarding New Zealand food laws, food labeling and packing requirements for imported foods in New Zealand can be found in FAS' New Zealand Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report. This report can be found under Export Assistance category/FAIRS/New Zealand and is located on FAS' homepage [here](#).

## Appendix 1- Certifications

ISPM No. 12

Guidelines for phytosanitary certificates

### Model Phytosanitary Certificate

### APPENDIX

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Plant Protection Organization of \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Plant Protection Organization(s) of \_\_\_\_\_

#### I. Description of Consignment

Name and address of exporter: \_\_\_\_\_

Declared name and address of consignee: \_\_\_\_\_

Number and description of packages: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing marks: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of origin: \_\_\_\_\_

Declared means of conveyance: \_\_\_\_\_

Declared point of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of produce and quantity declared: \_\_\_\_\_

Botanical name of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

They are deemed to be practically free from other pests.\*

#### II. Additional Declaration

#### III. Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Treatment \_\_\_\_\_ Chemical (active ingredient) \_\_\_\_\_

Duration and temperature \_\_\_\_\_

Concentration \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information \_\_\_\_\_

Place of issue \_\_\_\_\_

(Stamp of Organization) Name of authorized officer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

No financial liability with respect to this certificate shall attach to (name of Plant Protection Organization) or to any of its officers or representatives.\*

\* Optional clause

**Model Phytosanitary Certificate for Re-Export**

Plant Protection Organization of \_\_\_\_\_ (contracting party of re-export) No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 TO: Plant Protection Organization(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ (contracting party(ies) of import)

**I. Description of Consignment**

Name and address of exporter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Declared name and address of consignee: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number and description of packages: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Distinguishing marks: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of origin: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Declared means of conveyance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Declared point of entry: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of produce and quantity declared: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Botanical name of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described above \_\_\_\_\_ were imported into (contracting party of re-export) \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (contracting party of origin) covered by Phytosanitary certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_, \*original ☐ certified true copy ☐ of which is attached to this certificate; that they are packed ☐ repacked ☐ in original ☐ \*new ☐ containers, that based on the original phytosanitary certificate ☐ and additional inspection ☐, they are considered to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, and that during storage in \_\_\_\_\_ (contracting party of re-export), the consignment has not been subjected to the risk of infestation or infection.

\* Insert tick in appropriate ☐ boxes

**II. Additional Declaration****III. Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Treatment \_\_\_\_\_ Chemical (active ingredient) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duration and temperature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concentration \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional information \_\_\_\_\_

Place of issue \_\_\_\_\_

(Stamp of Organization) Name of authorized officer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

No financial liability with respect to this certificate shall attach to \_\_\_\_\_ (name of Plant Protection Organization) or to any of its officers or representatives.\*\*

\*\* Optional clause

**Attachments:**

No Attachments