

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/3E/DOC/9/Add.12/Rev.1  
14 November 1975

Special Distribution

---

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

GROUP 3(e) - BASIC DOCUMENTATION

Inventory of Sanitary and Phytosanitary  
Regulations Notified

NEW ZEALAND

Revision

New Zealand

The New Zealand authorities have submitted the following comments:

There are virtually no absolute prohibitions on imports under New Zealand's plant quarantine legislation. Even for items shown as "prohibited", small quantities may be introduced and placed in post-entry quarantine. Under this provision importing agencies who have shown a genuine interest in developing new trade associations have been able to enter nominally prohibited items for scientific research purposes and evaluation. New Zealand recognizes that plant health conditions are not static, and investigations have resulted, for example, in amendments to the regulations to allow the entry of oranges from South Africa, and apples from Canada and the United States.

Secondly, the legislation relating to plants and diseases and pests of plants have been revised. The three pertinent documents are:

- (a) The Plants Act 1970, which outlines the broad powers relating to imports, exports and disease control measures for plants and plant products;
- (b) The Introduction and Quarantine of Plants Regulations 1973, which gives technical and procedural requirements in relation to imports;
- (c) The Importation of Agricultural and Vegetable Seeds Notice 1974, which schedules in more detail the animal and plant quarantine requirements for seed imports.

Generally, New Zealand believes that its provisions and practice in the plant health field represent a compliance with the International Plant Protection Convention, perhaps to a higher degree than is generally the case. It has to be borne in mind, however, that New Zealand is considerably freer from plant disease than the countries with which it trades and, given the central rôle of agriculture to its economy, this situation must be maintained. For example, while there are over 100 diseases of maize, of which thirty are seed borne, only nine maize diseases have been recorded in New Zealand, including some ubiquitous ones. Secondly, because New Zealand is an agricultural trading nation, the plant health requirements of its trading partners impose some limitations on its freedom to review its quarantine controls on purely domestic considerations.

This latter point is also, and particularly, relevant in relation to New Zealand regulations on animals and animal products where New Zealand has to recognize the requirements of the large number of countries with which it trades. For example, any decision to permit the importation of animals from North America could result in an immediate ban being placed on the importation of cattle, and perhaps bovine semen, into Australia from New Zealand.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Live horses, asses, mules and hinnies (01.01)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

Imports prohibited from North America.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The prohibition is maintained because of the presence of the following diseases:

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) equine infectious anaemia; | (c) babesiosis;           |
| (b) equine encephalomyelitis,  | (d) vesicular stomatitis, |

none of which exist in New Zealand

The development of acceptable diagnostic tests would provide grounds for modifying the total restriction on importation.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Live animals of the bovine species (01.02)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

Imports prohibited from North America.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 05.15.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Live swine (01.03)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The restriction against swine was imposed in 1952 as a precaution against foot and mouth disease.

The United States and Canada have been free of foot and mouth disease since 1953 and, depending on the animal health situation at the time, swine could be imported. Recently live swine have been imported from Canada. Imports from the EEC (except Ireland) are prohibited to prevent the introduction of foot and mouth disease and swine vesicular disease.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product:	Country or group	Countries indicating
(BTN)	maintaining measures:	an interest:
Live sheep and	New Zealand	Canada
goats		EEC
(01:04)		United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Import prohibition maintained because of the risk of blue tongue disease present in the United States and the relatively free importation of United States cattle and sheep into Canada. The recurrence of Scrapie in Canada is another prohibiting factor.

With regard to blue tongue, if an internationally acceptable diagnostic test was developed and providing Canada remained free from Scrapie for five years, consideration to removing the restriction could be entertained.

Imports from the EEC are prohibited because of the presence of foot and mouth disease and scrapie.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Live poultry (01.05)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Prohibited because of presence of Newcastle Disease and also equine encephalomyelitis in the case of adult birds.

We would only consider importing hatching eggs and day-old chicks from countries free of Newcastle Disease and where live virus vaccine has never been used in the parent flocks.



<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Other live animals (01.06)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Direct importation of dogs and cats is prohibited from the United States, the EEC (except the United Kingdom) and Canada because rabies is endemic in those countries. Importation is permitted from any country if the animal spends six months in quarantine and a further six months in residence in the United Kingdom.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Meat and edible offals of the animals falling within heading Nos. 01.01- 01.04, fish, chilled or frozen (02.01)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Legislation does not permit generally the importation of uncooked meat or offals from any country. Exceptions can be made with the issue of a prior permit if the Chief Veterinary Officer is satisfied from acceptable Government veterinary certification in the country of origin at the particular time as to the animal disease status.

The issue of an import permit is a question for specific consideration of a particular proposal at a particular time.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Dead poultry ... and edible offals thereof (except liver), fresh, chilled or frozen (02.02)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 01.05.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Poultry liver, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted or in brine (02.03)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 01.05.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Other meat and edible meat offals, fresh, chilled or frozen (02.04)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Unrendered pig fat free of lean meat and unrendered poultry fat, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked (02.05)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See items 01.05 and 02.01.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Meat and edible meat offals (except poultry liver), salted in brine, dried or smoked (02.06)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 02.01.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Birds' eggs and egg yolks, fresh, dried or otherwise preserved, sweetened or not (04.05)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 01.05.



Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Pigs', hogs' and boars' bristles or hair; etc. (05.02)	New Zealand	EEC United States.

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

There is no restriction on importation of bristles or horsehair for brushes from the EEC and the United States. Direct imports are prohibited from countries where anthrax exists. However, imports are permitted after sterilization in the United Kingdom. Horsehair for other purposes may be imported on permit subject to sanitary provisions.

(Applies also to 05.03.)

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Horsehair and horsehair waste, whether or not put up on a layer ... (05.03)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 05.02.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof (05.04)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS: Sausage casings

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Imports are allowed under general certification from Canada, United States, Northern Ireland, the Irish Republic and Australia. Imports from other countries are banned on the basis of foot and mouth disease.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Fish waste (05.05)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries administers the regulations governing the importation of any part of any Salmonid fish to prevent the introduction of Ulcerative Dermal Necrosis.

Providing the fish waste has been treated in a manner that would render it fully sterile in terms of our legislation - free from any disease and the risk of carrying any disease, importation would be permitted.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Sinews and tendons; parings and similar waste, of raw hides or skins (05.06)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 02.01.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Skins and other parts of birds ... (05.07)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Prohibited except under permit because of the risk of introducing Newcastle Disease.

Imports of such products are permitted if they had been so treated as to render them free from carrying any disease organisms.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Bones and horn-cores, unworked, defatted, ... etc. ... (05.08)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Raw products are prohibited to prevent the introduction of foot and mouth disease, anthrax, swine fever, etc.

Importation of sterilized products would be permitted.

(Applies also to 05.09)

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Horns, antlers, hooves ... etc. (05.09)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 05.08.



Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Animal products n.e.s.; dead animals of Chapter 1 or 3, unfit for human consumption (05.15)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

Prohibition on bovine semen from North Africa.

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Bovine semen is imported from Canada subject to veterinary certification and six months storage in bond prior to export. Semen from the United States and the EEC (except the United Kingdom and Ireland) are prohibited because of endemic blue tongue disease and foot and mouth disease respectively.

(Applies also to 01.02.)

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant, in growth or in flower (06.01)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Protection against virus diseases not recorded in New Zealand. Inspection required during growing season in country of export for gladiolus, iris, liliun and tulipa.

Restriction on numbers only applies to paeony tubers owing to special precaution against a rust disease which could affect conifers and New Zealand's extensive timber pine forests. Not a prohibition or major barrier to trade. Begonia and orchids are treated as nursery stock.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Other live plants, including trees, shrubs, bushes, roots, cuttings and slips (06.02)	New Zealand	EEC United States.

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

If permitted entry there is a restriction on numbers. Because nursery stock arrives in a dormant condition, visual examination then is inadequate and post entry quarantine examination is necessary in the growing period after arrival in New Zealand. Only restricted numbers can be adequately supervised in quarantine to prevent the introduction of new pests and diseases.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Cut flowers and flower buds of a kind suitable for bouquets or for ornamental purposes (06.03)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

If material is strictly cut flowers or foliage there is no prohibition or limit on numbers, but the material must be free of pests, disease and extraneous matter.

The cause for concern is with propagative material such as rose eyes and stalks which are really nursery stock. Dyed seed heads of crop plants - maize, wheat, oats, barley and dyed seed head of docks and thistles or tinted stems of conifers and willows have arrived as cut flowers. These materials can carry diseases not established in New Zealand.

A basis for negotiation would be for the exporting country to sterilize cut flowers by heat treatment or autoclaving and fumigate foliage.

(Applies also to 06.04.)

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Foliage, branches and other parts ... of trees, shrubs, bushes and other plants ... of a kind suitable for bouquets or ornamental purposes ... (06.04)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

See item 06.03.

<u>Import Restrictions</u>		
Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Apples, pears and quinces, fresh (08.06)	New Zealand	Canada EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS: Apples

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Major reasons for prohibition are harmful fruit flies including apple maggot and brown rots which do not occur in New Zealand and could be transmitted by such fruit.

There is scope for negotiation if a meaningful trade is envisaged by both the exporting country and New Zealand. This could be on similar lines to the South African or Australian/New Zealand trade in oranges where fruit is drawn from outside the "danger zone" or given in transit sterilization.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Buckwheat, millet, canary seed and grain sorghum; other cereals (10.07)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS: Canary seed, millet and grain sorghum

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Grain sorghum

A field inspection of the growing crop - necessitating additional work by exporting country but not a prohibition. Special quarantine concern because the downy mildew disease of sorghum also attacks important New Zealand crops - maize and sweet corn.

Canary seed

Entry is negotiable if clean areas can be defined and exports can be restricted to such areas.

Millet

Subject to permit. Only from countries free of smutt disease and downy mildew.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Oilseeds and oleaginous fruit, whole or broken (12.01)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS: Palm nuts and kernels - must be free of insects

Soyabeans - severe restriction

Oilseeds other than cottonseed and castor seed - some restrictions

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Sunflower and soyabeans: Severe restriction because there is no known sterilization method which would eliminate several major diseases whilst leaving seed viable.

Negotiable if imports transferred under bond into manufacturers' premises for processing.

Oilseeds other than cottonseed and castor seed: Some restrictions on account of seed borne diseases.

Negotiable on basis of entry and direct transfer to processing plants.



Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Flours or meals of oil- seeds or oleaginous fruit, non-defatted (excluding mustard flour) (12.02)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS: Soyabean flour and meal

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

Prior solvent extraction of seed a prerequisite. Depending on the use for which the substance is required, other conditions will be determined by the disease status of the supplying country.

Import Restrictions

Product: (BTN)	Country or group maintaining measures:	Countries indicating an interest:
Seeds, fruit and spores, of a kind used for sowing (12.03)	New Zealand	EEC United States

---

(a) Description:

HS

(b) Comments by other countries:

(c) Comments by country maintaining the measures:

All the regulations are contained in the Importation of Agricultural and Vegetable Seeds Notice 1974. This is available on request.

Where seed imports are under restriction it is because exotic diseases and pests that may be introduced by the importation of the seeds. Genetic considerations are also involved as well as the need for observance of animal quarantine requirements relating to freedom from ticks.