



7 April 2020

Dr Bernard Van Goethem,
Director
Crisis Management in Food, Animals and Plants
Directorate General for Health and Food safety
European Commission
Brussels

Dear Bernard

Export Certificates in the context of COVID 19

Thank you for your letter, dated 24 March 2020, reference Ares (2020)1726224 and the related letter reference Ares (2020)1749411. We appreciate your pragmatic approach to continuing efficient international trade during the COVID-19 outbreak. We wish to thank the Bilateral International Relations Unit for the further advice to our questions and have, for your information, set out our understanding in Section 2 of this letter.

The Ministry for Primary Industries has also been examining how we can facilitate your exports and can confirm the following;

Section 1 For EU animal and plant products exported to New Zealand

- Border clearance for all sanitary and phytosanitary certificates will be provided by the EU Member States' emailing scanned certificate(s) to the following MPI address;
tecargo@mpi.govt.nz.
- The email Subject line must state;

"Verified copy of Sanitary Certificate" and contain the Certificate number and Member State of origin".

Or

"Verified copy of Phytosanitary Certificate" and contain the Certificate number and Member State of origin".

- Any Member State email address must clearly belong to the relevant Member State competent authority.
- Original paper SPS certificates should, where possible, be presented to the relevant BIPs either prior to clearance of the consignment or at some later time.

Section 2 For New Zealand animal and plant product exports to the EU

- For animal products entered into the EU TRACES (classic) system consignments will be cleared using only TRACES information. No original paper certificate is required to be presented.
- For all other animal and plant products consignments border clearance will be provided by emailing scanned copies of certificates as per the European Commission's letter. Original paper certificates will, to the extent practicable, be provided by our exporters to your importers for transmission to the relevant BIPs.

I suggest that we jointly review these arrangements every two weeks to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

Yours sincerely



Dr Tony Zohrab
Chief Market Access Officer

Cc Dr Koen van Dyck
Dr Nicolas Guth
Dr Nicolas Dymond
Dr Steven Ainsworth
Dr Trish Mead