

Biosecurity New Zealand

Tiakitanga Pūtalao Aotearoa

New Zealand Biosecurity System

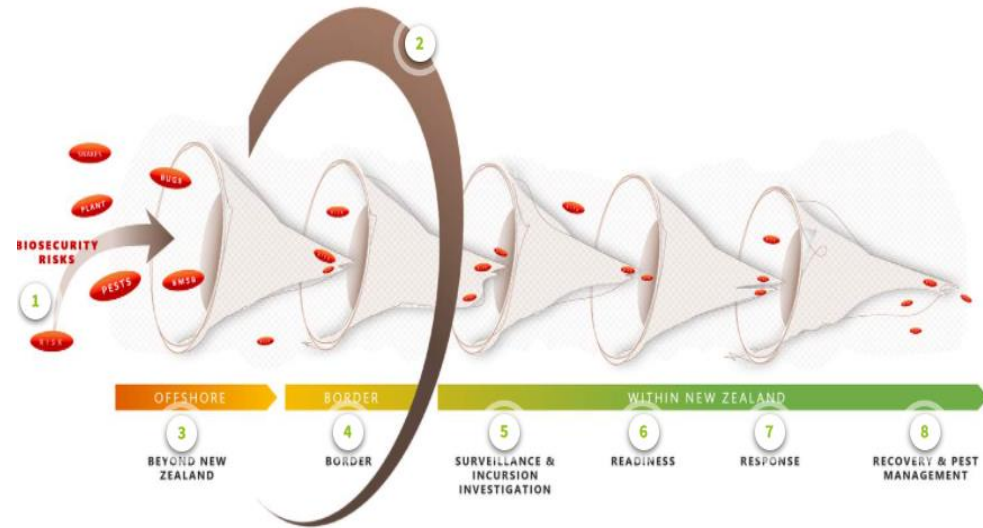
With a focus on the Sea Container Pathway

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Biosecurity NZ has layers of protection

- Biosecurity NZ has layers of protection at the pre-border, border, and post-border level.
- Biosecurity risks are managed offshore at pre-border level.
- Border measures manages risk at the entry point, e.g. inspection verification.
- Post border measures: Surveillance, incursion investigation, readiness and response, and pest management.
- All layers are connected and supported by scientific analysis and findings.



Biosecurity Act 1993

- Enables the “exclusion, eradication, and effective management of pests and unwanted organisms”.
- Provides the legal framework for our biosecurity system protective measures.
- “Risk goods” is broadly defined, powers given under the Biosecurity Act 1993 to manage risk is immense.



Biosecurity Act 1993

Public Act 1993 No 95
Date of assent 26 August 1993
Commencement see section 1(2)



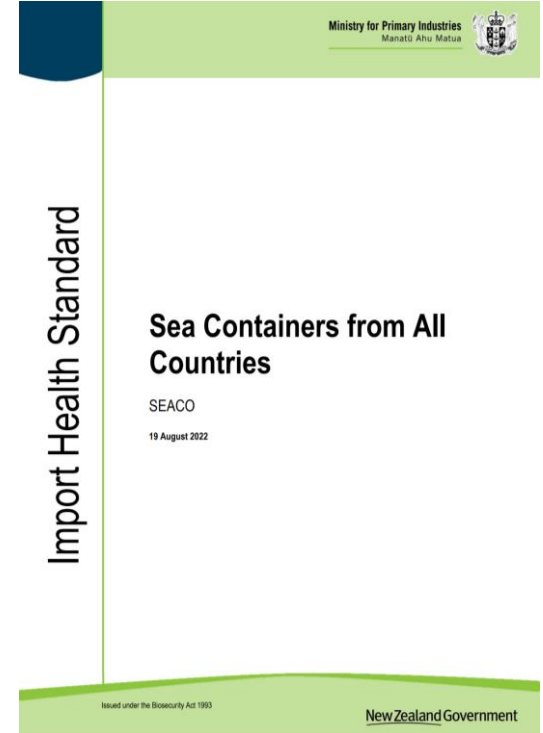
Import Health Standards

- Part 3 of the Biosecurity Act – Importation of Risk goods.
- Section 22 – Import health Standard (IHS) specifies requirements for cargo to manage biosecurity risk.
- IHS written for importers to understand cargo requirements for biosecurity clearance.



Sea Containers from All Countries

- Applies to all sea containers arriving in New Zealand, including empty containers.
- All sea containers entering New Zealand must be clean and free of regulated pests and biosecurity contamination.
- Container identifiers are provided to MPI, allows tracing of contamination.



Sea Containers from All Countries

- Sea containers remain sealed until given permission to be unpacked at a transitional facility.
- All sea containers must “be inspected and checked at a transitional facility by legally approved persons under the Act.
- This is regardless of the cargo type, full, or empty containers.
- Allows MPI to take preventative approach in managing biosecurity risks associated with sea containers.



Transitional Facilities

- A secure location to hold and manage unclear goods by MPI trained staff.
- TFs are part of surveillance, enables MPI to respond promptly to risks found.
- Sea containers arriving in New Zealand must be delivered to an Approved Transitional Facility (ATF).
- TFs report on 100% of containers, helping with container traceability.



Performance-based verifications

- Transitional facilities are audited under performance-based verifications.
- Frequency of verifications depends on the historical compliance of the operator.
- Consistently compliant operators would receive a decreased verification frequency.
- If operators are found to be non-compliant, verification frequency will increase.



Working with industry

- Shares the management of biosecurity risks associated with sea containers.
- MPI recognised systems has lowered MPI intervention rate.
- Accredited Person (AP) receive training to carry out low-risk container inspections.
- Co-management Systems carry out empty container inspections to verify compliance.
- Shipping companies exporting containers out of the Pacific Islands use a hygiene system to clean the containers at the port of export.



Challenges and Obstacles

- Insufficient paperwork provided to inspectors can cause delays in making a biosecurity decision.
- Long queues at Transitional Facilities can lead to delayed clearance and disrupt production chains.
- Treatment facilities reaching maximum capacity and importers are unable to find another suitable treatment (e.g. heat treatment).



Summary

- Biosecurity New Zealand has many layers of protection.
- Offshore and on arrival risk management methods as preventative measures.
- Approved systems shows the importance of regulator-industry partnership in helping manage biosecurity risk in the sea container pathway.



Ngā mihi

Contact us for more information:
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