



# 21/02 New Zealand honey exported to Japan

## Animal Products OMAR Notification

19 January 2021

### COMMENCEMENT

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 21 January 2021

### REVOCATION

The following for your information (FYI) document is cancelled with publication of this Notice:

- F61/20: New Zealand honey exported to Japan

### ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Animal Products Notice is issued under section 167(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999 for the purposes of Section 60 of the Act.

Dated at Wellington, 19 January 2021

Barbara Hickey  
Manager, Market Access  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

Contact for further information  
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)  
Policy and Trade Branch  
Market Access Directorate  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140  
Email: [market.access@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:market.access@mpi.govt.nz)

## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Animal Products Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the market access requirements that must be met to export compliant animal products into Japan.

## Background

This type of notification is normally issued because of a sudden change in an importing country's measures or a measure is being applied in a different way for a defined period. It must be read in conjunction with the main country OMAR, because areas of that OMAR which are not affected by the change will continue to apply. If it becomes clear that the change in trade conditions is more permanent, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), will amend the OMAR to incorporate the provisions and revoke this notification.

This OMAR Notification is issued to include the requirement that every batch of honey exported from New Zealand to Japan be tested to confirm it meets Japan's maximum residue level (MRL) for glyphosate (0.01mg/kg).

## Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

This notice should be read by anyone involved in the processing and supply of animal products to Japan, including but not limited to processors and exporters.

## Why is this important?

This Notice is important because it sets out the requirements that need to be met so that the exported animal products will comply with the trade conditions which New Zealand, in consultation with the importing market authorities, has determined will apply. It should be noted that although products may comply with these requirements and be given an official assurance (by way of a certificate), the importing country ultimately retains control over what products it clears for entry.

## Other information

- (1) Exporters should note that under section 51 of the Animal Products Act 1999 where they have exported animal products that are refused entry by the foreign government they have a statutory duty to notify the Director-General of MPI not later than 24 hours after they have first knowledge of the event. Procedures and forms are available for this purpose on the MPI website at <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/exporting/meeting-nz-standards-for-export/export-non-conformances/>.
- (2) Where it is clear from importers' information such as an import permit or other reliable sources that the conditions set out in an OMAR do not match the requirements currently being applied by the foreign government, exporters should inform MPI, through local Verification Services staff or email to [market.access@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:market.access@mpi.govt.nz), so that the situation can be clarified.
- (3) Section 61A of the Act states that "The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market."
- (4) The information in italics contained within a border throughout this OMAR is for guidance and is not part of the statutory requirements.

- (5) These export requirements may be commercially sensitive and access is limited to persons who have satisfied the Director-General that their specific export or processing activities cannot be properly undertaken unless they have access.

## 1 Requirements

### 1.1 Application

- (1) This Notice applies to the export of honey to Japan.

### 1.2 Definitions

- (1) Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 but is not defined in this document has the same meaning as in the Act.
- (2) Terms not defined in this Notice have the same meaning as those set out in the Japan OMAR.
- (3) For the purposes of this Notice:

**Batch** has the same meaning as the definition in the [Animal Products Notice: General Export Requirements for Bee Products](#)

**Honey** means the natural sweet substance produced by honey bees from the nectar of blossoms or from secretions of living parts of plants or excretions of plant sucking insects on the living parts of plants, which honey bees collect, transform and combine with specific substances of their own, store and leave in the honey comb to ripen and mature.

**Overseas Market Access Requirement (OMAR)** is an export requirement specified by the Director-General by notice issued under section 167(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999 for the purposes of Section 60 of the Act that specifies requirements for animal material or animal product intended for export.

**Premises of final control** means the final premises operating under a risk based measure where a consignment is physically located before it is transferred to a port of export.

### 1.3 Sampling and Testing

- (1) Every batch of honey exported from New Zealand to Japan must be tested for glyphosate and the test result must be less than 0.01mg/kg (Japan's maximum residue level (MRL) for glyphosate).
- (2) Testing must be carried out in a laboratory that is approved to test for glyphosate in accordance with the [Animal Products Notice: Specifications for Laboratories](#) (MPI RLP).

*MHLW has informed MPI that it will implement 100% testing of all honey from New Zealand for glyphosate in the near future (date to be confirmed by MHLW) after two detections were found in recent consignments of New Zealand honey to Japan.*

*MHLW has advised that if more than 5% of the samples tested under the 100% testing regime are found to exceed Japan's MRL for glyphosate imports of honey from New Zealand will be stopped/banned.*

## 1.4 Official Assurances

- (1) Operators of premises of final control must ensure that all final eligibility documents they raise in AP E-Cert in relation to consignments of honey to Japan include the laboratory test results confirming that every batch of honey in a consignment has returned a test result for glyphosate of less than 0.01mg/kg.

*MHLW will notify MPI when it implements 100% testing at the border.*

*Until the 100% border testing is implemented MHLW is requiring importers to provide test results for glyphosate with all consignments.*

*From 21 January 2021 all test results must be provided by a laboratory that is approved by MPI (MPI RLP) to test for glyphosate.*