

Import Health Standard
Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables
Lychee, (*Litchi chinensis*) from Taiwan

Issued pursuant to section 24A (formerly s 22) of the Biosecurity Act 1993
Date Issued: 26 April 2023

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Commencement

This import health standard comes into force on 26 April 2023.

Revocation

This import health standard revokes and replaces all prior versions of and amendments to the import health standard *Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables: Lychee, (Litchi chinensis) from Taiwan*.

The document history to this import health standard is set out in Appendix 3.

Issuing authority

This import health standard is issued pursuant to sections 24A and 166A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington this 26th day of April 2023.

Lisa Winthrop
Manager, Plant Health
Ministry for Primary Industries

(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

Review and amendment

New Zealand import health standards are subject to periodic review and amendment. New Zealand import health standards are updated and republished as necessary with the most recent version published on the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) website.

Distribution

Import health standards are distributed by MPI. They are made available for public access on the MPI website: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/legal/compliance-requirements/ihs-import-health-standards/>

Introduction

Scope

This import health standard describes the requirements to be met to enable biosecurity clearance to be given for fresh lychee fruit (*Litchi chinensis*) imported into New Zealand from Taiwan.

References

Biosecurity Act 1993

Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas 1996. ISPM Publication No. 4, FAO, Rome.

Requirements for the establishment of pest free places of production and pest free production sites 1999. ISPM Publication No. 10, FAO, Rome.

Glossary of phytosanitary terms 2002. ISPM Publication No. 5, FAO, Rome.

Risk analysis for quarantine pests including analysis of environmental risks 2003. ISPM Publication No. 11 (Rev. 1), FAO, Rome.

New Revised Text of the International Plant Protection Convention, November 1997. FAO, Rome.

MAF Plants Biosecurity Pest Risk Assessment Standard (26 September 2001).

MPI Import Health Standard 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand*.

Definitions, abbreviations and acronyms

biosecurity clearance	A clearance under section 26 of the New Zealand Biosecurity Act 1993 for the entry of goods into New Zealand
Biosecurity New Zealand	The business unit of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) that has the lead role in preventing the importation of unwanted pests and diseases, and for controlling, managing or eradicating them should they arrive
certificate	An official document, which attests to the phytosanitary status of any consignment affected by phytosanitary regulations [FAO, 1990]
commodity	A type of plant, plant product, or other article being moved for trade or other purpose [FAO, 1990; ICPM Amendments, April 2001]

consignment	A quantity of plants, plant products and/or other articles being moved from one country to another and covered, when required, by a single phytosanitary certificate (a consignment may be composed of one or more commodities or lots) [FAO, 1990; ICPM Amendments, April 2001]
establishment	Perpetuation, for the foreseeable future, of a pest within an area after entry [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]
high-impact pest	High-impact pests are regulated pests that if introduced into New Zealand would have a major effect on the production (including access to overseas markets) of plants and plant products and/or the environment.
import health standard	A document issued under section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 that specifies “... <i>the requirements to be met for the effective management of risks associated with the importation of risk goods before those goods can be imported, moved from a biosecurity control area or a transitional facility, or given a biosecurity clearance</i> ”
Infestation of a consignment	Presence in a commodity of a living pest of the plant or plant product concerned. Infestation includes infection [CEPM, 1997; revised CEPM 1999]
Inspection	Official visual examination of plants, plant products or other regulated articles to determine if pests are present and/or to confirm compliance with phytosanitary regulations [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995]
International Plant Protection Convention	International Plant Protection Convention, as deposited with FAO in Rome in 1951 and as subsequently amended [FAO, 1990]
IPPC	Acronym for the International Plant Protection Convention

International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures	An international standard adopted by the Conference of FAO, the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures or the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures established under the IPPC [CEPM, 1996; revised CEPM, 1999]
introduction	The entry of a pest resulting in its establishment [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997]
ISPM	Abbreviation for International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
lot	The number of units of a single commodity identifiable by its homogeneity of composition, origin, etc., forming part of a consignment. [FAO, 1990]
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries, the New Zealand national plant protection organisation
national plant protection organisation	Official service established by government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC. [FAO, 1990]
NPPO	Abbreviation for national plant protection organisation
official	Established, authorised or performed by a national plant protection organisation [FAO, 1990]
pest	Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC, 1997] Note: For the purpose of this standard “pest” includes an organism sometimes associated with the pathway, which poses a risk to human or animal or plant life or health (SPS Article 2).
pest-free area	An area in which a specific pest does not occur as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained [FAO, 1995]

pest-free production site	A defined portion of a place of production in which a specific pest does not occur as demonstrated by scientific evidence and in which, where appropriate, this condition is being officially maintained for a defined period and that is managed as a separate unit in the same way as a pest free place of production [ISPM Pub. No. 10, 1999]
phytosanitary certificate	A certificate patterned after the model certificates of the IPPC [FAO 1990]
phytosanitary certification	Use of phytosanitary procedures leading to the issue of a phytosanitary certificate [FAO, 1990]
phytosanitary measure	Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and/or spread of pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests [FAO, 1995; revised IPPC, 1997; ISC, 2001]
quarantine pest	A pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and (is) being officially controlled [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC 1997].
regulated pest	A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest [IPPC, 1997] A pest of potential economic importance to New Zealand and not yet present there, or present but either not widely distributed and being officially controlled, or a regulated non-quarantine pest, or having the potential to vector another regulated pest into New Zealand
treatment	Officially authorised procedure for the killing or removal of pests or rendering pests infertile or for devitalisation [FAO, 1990, revised FAO, 1995; ISPM No. 15, 2002; ISPM No. 18, 2003]
viable	Capable of maintaining life, or able to live in a particular environment and able to procreate

Outline of requirements

This import health standard outlines the requirements that must be met prior to shipment, in-transit and on arrival in New Zealand for fresh lychee fruit imported from Taiwan.

This standard is replicated at the following Internet address:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/import/food/fresh-fruit-vegetables/requirements/>

Generic requirements for the importation of fresh fruit and vegetables into New Zealand are described in the MPI Import Health Standard 152.02: *Importation and Clearance of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables into New Zealand*.

New Zealand legislative requirements and international obligations

All New Zealand import health standards are based upon risk analyses, which may assess either a commodity or a pest/pathway combination. New Zealand's legislative requirements and international obligations are taken into account when conducting risk analyses and applying the findings in the development of import health standards. The principal document for all New Zealand import health standards relating to plants and plant products is the Biosecurity Act 1993, whilst the international obligations derive principally from the guidelines on risk analysis developed under the auspices of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures operating within the framework of the International Plant Protection Convention, and the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

Import health standard: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables – Lychees (*Litchi chinensis*) from Taiwan

1 Official contact point (New Zealand national plant protection organisation)

The official contact point in New Zealand for overseas NPPOs is MPI. All communication pertaining to this import health standard should be addressed to:

Animal and Plant Health
Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

Email: plantimports@mpi.govt.nz

1 General conditions for the importation of all plants and plant products

Plants and plant products are not permitted entry into New Zealand unless an import health standard has been issued in accordance with section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993. Should plants or plant products, for which no import health standard exists, be intercepted by MPI New Zealand, the importer will be offered the option of reshipment or destruction of the consignment (at their expense).

The NPPO of the exporting country is requested to inform MPI of any change of address.

The NPPO of the exporting country is required to inform MPI of any newly recorded pests which may infest/infect any commodity approved for export to New Zealand.

2 Explanation of pest categories

MPI categorises pests associated with plants and plant products into regulated and non-regulated pests. Measures to prevent the establishment of regulated pests in New Zealand are developed in accordance with the appropriate FAO ISPMs and other relevant international standards.

Regulated pests are those pests for which actions would be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected. As well as quarantine pests these include pests that may pose a risk to human or animal health or to the environment, vectors of associated quarantine pests, and virulent strains (not present in New Zealand) of non-regulated pests and contaminants. Non-regulated pests are those pests for which actions would not be undertaken if they were intercepted/detected.

Pests (including weeds) associated with each commodity will appear on a separate pest list which will be attached to each import health standard as an Appendix.

3 Application of measures

A number of different measures may be applied to pests based on the outcome of pest risk analyses. Required measures may include:

- Surveillance for pest freedom
- Testing prior to export for regulated pests which cannot be readily detected by inspection (e.g. viruses on propagating material)
- Specific pre-shipment pest control activities to be undertaken by the supply country's contracting party
- The application of a pre-shipment treatment
- Inspection of the export consignment
- Issuance of a phytosanitary certificate which attests to the phytosanitary status of a consignment
- Treatment on arrival in New Zealand

4 General conditions for fresh fruit/vegetables for consumption

Only clean, inert/synthetic material may be used for the protection, packaging and shipping of fresh fruit/vegetables.

Consignments contaminated with soil, or other potential carriers of regulated pests (e.g. leaf litter) will not be permitted entry if the level of contamination is above the acceptable tolerance (see section 7.4 in the MPI import health standard *Importation and clearance of fresh fruit and vegetables into New Zealand* <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1147-Importation-and-Clearance-of-Fresh-Fruit-and-Vegetables-into-New-Zealand-Import-Health-Standard>).

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country's NPPO must accompany all consignments of fresh fruit and vegetables exported to New Zealand.

MPI will inspect all consignments of fresh fruit and vegetables to verify that New Zealand's phytosanitary requirements have been met.

Where it has been determined through pest risk assessment that high impact pests are associated with a particular commodity more specific phytosanitary measures must be met. In most circumstances these phytosanitary measures will need to be met prior to arrival of the commodity in New Zealand.

5 Specific conditions for lychees (Commodity Sub-Class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables) from Taiwan.

5.1 Pre-shipment requirements

5.1.1 Inspection of the consignment

MPI requires that the Taiwan NPPO sample and visually inspect the consignment according to official procedures for all the regulated pests specified by MPI and ensure that it conforms with the New Zealand's current import requirements. A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if live regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the consignment is treated in order to eliminate these. If pests are found which are not listed in the import health standard, the Taiwan NPPO must establish their regulatory status. This information is available in MPI's "Official New Zealand Pest Register" <https://pierpesterregister.mpi.govt.nz/>.

If a pest is not listed in this register, the Taiwan NPPO must contact MPI (see Section 1 of this IHS) to establish the regulatory status of the pest.

5.1.2 Testing of the consignment

Testing of the consignment prior to export to New Zealand for regulated pests which are not visually detectable (viz. fungi and bacteria) is not required for fresh lychees from Taiwan.

5.1.3 Phytosanitary measures for high impact pests

All lychee fruit for export to New Zealand must be sourced from orchards that produce commercial lychee under standard cultivation, pest-control, harvesting and packing activities. During harvest cracked, infested fruit or damaged fruit must be discarded prior to treatment.

MPI requires additional mandatory pre-export measures (treatment or equivalent) for high impact pests. Two high-impact pests are associated with lychee in Taiwan: the fruit flies *Bactrocera dorsalis* and *Zeugodacus cucurbitae* (*Bactrocera cucurbitae*).

Lychee fruit must be subject to cold disinfestation treatment or a combination of vapour treatment followed by cold treatment in accordance with specifications in Appendix 2, clause 2 of this standard, before arrival in New Zealand.

NOTE: "appropriate pest control activities" is a broad term that is inclusive of a range of phytosanitary measures. Examples of these measures are pest free areas, physical exclusion (such as bagging of fruit), chemical treatments etc.

5.1.4 Documentation

Bilateral quarantine arrangement/Workplan: Required for fruit flies.

Lychee fruit may only be imported into New Zealand from Taiwan under the terms of the Bilateral Quarantine Arrangement/Workplan.

Phytosanitary certificate: Required.

Import permit/Authorisation to import: Exempt under Gazette Notice: No. AG12, 13 July 1995.

5.1.5 Phytosanitary certification

A completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the Taiwan NPPO must accompany all lychee consignments exported to New Zealand.

Before a phytosanitary certificate is issued, the Taiwan NPPO must be satisfied that the following activities required by MPI New Zealand have been undertaken.

The lychees have:

- (i) been visually inspected in accordance with appropriate official procedures and found to be free from any regulated pests

AND

- (ii) undergone an agreed treatment that is effective against *Bactrocera dorsalis* and *Zeugodacus cucurbitae*

Note: pest control activities are to comply with relevant health and safety requirements and food standards.

5.1.6 Additional declarations to the phytosanitary certificate

If satisfied that the pre-shipment activities have been undertaken, the Taiwan NPPO must confirm this by providing the following additional declaration to the phytosanitary certificate:

- (i) This is to certify that the lychees in this consignment have undergone effective treatment against those regulated pests specified by MPI.

NOTE: full details of the fruit fly treatment must be included in the “Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment” area of the phytosanitary certificate. Details of the treatment duration and temperature must be recorded.

5.2 Transit requirements

The NPPO must ensure that the consignment (prior to export) is held in a manner to ensure that infestation/reinfestation does not occur following phytosanitary certification.

Where a consignment is split or has its packaging changed while in another country (or countries) *en route* to New Zealand, a “Re-export Certificate” is required. Where a consignment is held under bond as a result of the need to change conveyances and is kept in the original shipping container, a “Re-export Certificate” is not required.

5.3 Inspection on arrival in New Zealand

MPI will check the accompanying documentation on arrival to confirm that it is correct and reconciles with the actual consignment.

MPI requires, with 95% confidence, that not more than 0.5% of the units in a consignment are infested with visually detectable, regulated pests. To achieve this, MPI will sample and inspect 600 units with an acceptance level of zero infested units (or equivalent), from the (homogeneous) lot.

5.4 Biosecurity/quarantine directive

The consignment may be directed to an MPI approved facility for further treatment if required.

5.5 Testing for regulated pests

MPI may, on the specific request of the Chief Technical Officer, test the consignment for regulated pests.

5.6 Actions undertaken on the interception/detection of pests/contaminants

If regulated pests, extraneous plant material or trash are intercepted/detected with the commodity, or associated packaging, the following actions will be undertaken as appropriate (depending on the pest identified):

- Re-sorting (specific conditions apply) of the consignment
- Reshipment of the consignment
- Destruction of the consignment
- Treatment for those pests where an efficacious treatment is available
- The suspension of trade on the detection of high impact pests for which specific pre-arrival phytosanitary measures are required. Suspension of trade will continue until the cause of the non-compliance has been identified and corrective actions have been implemented to the satisfaction of MPI New Zealand

If an organism is intercepted/detected that is not on the pest list (appended to this document), the consignment will be held (or equivalent) until an assessment is undertaken to determine the organism's regulatory status and appropriate measures developed if required. Consignments that are contaminated with extraneous plant material and/or trash in the 600-unit sample will result in the consignment being held until an assessment has been made in comparison with the risk of importing the part(s) of the plant species concerned.

5.7 Biosecurity clearance

If regulated pests are not detected, or are successfully treated following interception/detection, biosecurity clearance will be given.

5.8 Audit of offshore measures

MPI New Zealand reserves the right to audit all processes that are undertaken offshore, including phytosanitary measures for high impact pests.

5.9 Feedback on non-compliance

The Taiwan NPPO will be informed by MPI's Chief Technical Officer of the interception (and treatment) of any regulated pests, "unlisted" pests, or non-compliance with measures specified in this import health standard.

Appendix 1 Regulated Pest List Commodity Sub-class: Fresh Fruit/Vegetables *Litchi chinensis* from Taiwan

Scientific name	Organism type	Common name	Measures to prevent introduction	Actions on interception
<i>Adoxophyes orana</i>	ins	Summer fruit tortrix moth	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Aphis gossypii</i>	ins	Cotton/melon aphid	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i>	ins	Oriental fruit fly #	1a & 1b & 3	3
<i>Brevipalpus phoenicis</i>	mite	False spider mite	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Ceroplastes pseudoceriferus</i>	ins	Horned wax scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Ceroplastes rubens</i>	ins	Pink wax scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Chaetanaphothrips orchidii</i>	ins	Anthurium thrips	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Cryptophlebia ombrodelta</i>	ins	Macadamia nut borer	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Ferrisia virgata</i>	ins	Guava mealybug	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Homona coffearia</i>	ins	Tea flushworm	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Ischnaspis longirostris</i>	ins	Black thread scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Kerria lacca</i>	ins	Lac insect	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Lymantria spp.</i>	ins	Spongy moth	1a & 1b & 3	1&/or 2
<i>Oligonychus litchi</i>	mite	Litchi spider mite	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Orthotydeus kochi</i>	mite	Tydeid mite	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Planococcus lilacinus</i>	ins	Coffee mealybug	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Pseudaonidia trilobitiformis</i>	ins	Trilobite scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi</i>	ins	Jack Beardsleyi scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Pulvinaria psidii</i>	ins	Guava mealy scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Selenaspis articulatus</i>	ins	Rufous scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Selenothrips rubrocinctus</i>	ins	Red banded thrips	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Statherotis discana</i>	ins	Litchi leaf roller	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Tessarotoma papillosa</i>	ins	Litchi stinkbug	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Thysanoflorinia leei</i>	ins	Scale	1a & 1b & 3	1 &/or 2
<i>Zeugodacus cucurbitae</i>	ins	Melon fly #	1a & 1b & 3	3

Denotes a high impact pest

Measures to prevent entry & establishment

. No measures as pest non regulated

- 1a Visual inspection of produce and associated packaging
- 1b Consignment must be free from extraneous plant material – pests are associated with other plant parts (e.g., leaves, stems, flowers)
- 2a Undergone appropriate pest control activities
- 2b Pest-free area (based on official detection survey)
- 3 Agreed offshore fruit fly treatment
- 4 Approved generic treatment

Actions on interception

- NA No actions as pest is non-regulated
- 0 No action due to low-risk pathway
- 1 Removal of trash – pests are associated with other plant parts (e.g., leaves, stems, flowers)
- 2 Treat, reship or destroy
- 2a Treat, reship or destroy. Suspend pathway
- 3 Reship or destroy. Suspend pathway

Appendix 2 Pre-arrival phytosanitary measures for high impact fruit flies associated with lychees in Taiwan

1. Scope

New Zealand, as a country free from harmful species of fruit fly (Diptera: Tephritidae), requires exporting countries to implement official phytosanitary measures for those species of fruit flies identified as potentially having a major effect on the production (including access to overseas markets) of plants and plant products and/or the environment, should they be introduced to New Zealand.

Lychees are a host of the high impact fruit flies *Bactrocera dorsalis* and *Zeugodacus cucurbitae* in Taiwan, and accordingly, appropriate phytosanitary measures must be implemented to mitigate the risk of these species being introduced into New Zealand in association with this commodity.

MPI and the Taiwan NPPO have agreed that either an offshore heat treatment (vapour heat treatment) or cold disinfestation treatment can be used as a suitable pre-arrival phytosanitary measure for this purpose.

2. Treatment specification

One of the following treatments must be performed prior to the arrival of lychees in New Zealand. Treatments will be undertaken in accordance with agreed procedures.

2.1 Cold disinfestation treatment

Prior to arrival in New Zealand, the core temperature of the fruit must be held continuously at one of the two temperature/time combinations listed in the table below:

Fruit pulp temperature	Exposure period (consecutive days)
1.0 °C or below	17
1.38 °C or below	20

NOTE: full details of the fruit fly treatment must be included in the “Disinfestation and/or Disinfection Treatment” area of the phytosanitary certificate. Details of the treatment duration and temperature must be recorded.

2.2 Vapour heat treatment followed by cold treatment

Prior to export, the lychees must be heated by means of vapour heat from ambient temperature to a minimum 46.2 °C (fruit core temperature) for at least 20 minutes followed by cold storage for a minimum of 42 hours at 2 °C (fruit core temperature). Cold treatment target temperature must be reached within 6 hours of the vapour heat treatment.

3. Treatment monitoring

All treatments shall be monitored in accordance with Appendix 2 or Appendix 3 of the Bilateral Quarantine Arrangement between New Zealand Commerce and Industry Office (Taipei) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (Wellington). All cartons of lychee fruit shall be traceable to a unique treatment batch. The original or a certified copy of the treatment record must accompany the consignment. All cartons selected for inspection shall be checked to ensure that the batch number on each carton matches with the treatment record(s).

4. Product security

Following treatment, the security of all treatment batches must be maintained in accordance with agreed procedures.

Appendix 3 Document history

This document history lists amendments since 2023.

Version Date	Section Changed	Change Description
5 October 2007	All	Standard issued
26 April 2023	Phytosanitary measures	Replaced vapour heat treatment schedule with combined treatment.