Welcome

Welcome to our quarterly Bug Business e-newsletter for July/August. There is a lot of activity and change occurring in the area of Biosecurity and it applies to Transitional Facilities in New Zealand. In this edition we aim to identify the changes and how they might affect your business.

There are amendments to the Biosecurity Act 1993, these are contained in the Biosecurity Law Reform Act (2012) and include changes to the frequency of Accredited Person (AP) training that are now in place from July 1st. A review of the Transitional Facility standard is also underway.

IN THIS ISSUE

In this issue we are covering the following topics:

- Biosecurity Frequently Asked Questions and Answers
- Biosecurity Law Reform Act (2012) and Changes that affect Transitional Facilities
- MPI Transitional Facility Programme Review
- TFGEN Standard Review
- Latest Biosecurity Pest Alerts
- Changes to the Frequency of AP Training
- New Initiatives from The AgriChain Centre
- Biosecurity Solutions Package For New Facility Applications
- Biosecurity Training & Support Services

As an Island nation with a limited number of ports and airports to control, Biosecurity is achievable and (relatively) cost effective.

Managing the Biosecurity of the sea container pathway is critical to our economic survival as a nation. Accredited Persons are an integral part of this management with 80% of imported containers checked by them throughout the country.

BIOSECURITY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What are the three main pathways for pests to arrive in New Zealand?
   • Air
   • Sea
   • Mail

Q. What should a customs delivery order say in order for an Accredited Person to break the seal?
   A. Refer to the customs delivery instruction and look for the words MPI Clearance given.

Q. What should an Accredited Person always have when checking and unloading sea containers?
   A. Biosecurity bin for biosecurity waste; insecticide, torch, broom, dustpan and brush

Q. What action do you take if your wood packaging is not stamped?
   A. If non-ISPM 15 stamped wood is clean, dry, and free from contamination you can continue unpacking. If you are in any doubt, contain it and contact MPI as soon as possible.

Q. What to do when contamination is found?
   A. Follow the instructions on the new contamination sticker below. Available from The AgriChain Centre.
Changes included in the Biosecurity Law Reform Act (2012) and internal restructuring of roles and responsibilities signal a move by MPI towards a greater enforcement approach.

The merger of Fisheries and NZFSA with its premises audit team may possibly herald a more formal approach to auditing and greater attention to the requirements of TFGEN standard than currently experienced.

Whilst the greater part of the Biosecurity Law Reform Act (2012) does not relate to Transitional Facilities several areas do.

**THESE ARE CHANGES TO SECTIONS 39 AND 40. TRANSITIONAL FACILITIES & OPERATORS**

The changes introduce greater enforceability of facility standards. There are some new facility conditions, new operator duties and the addition of an offence "Failing to comply with the standards" has been added.

Factors that can be considered in the test for approving Facility Operators as "fit and proper" have been set out and the ability to suspend approvals has been added.

In other sections of the Act the scope of the Biosecurity Authority Clearance Certificates (BACC) has been expanded and the persons bound by a BACC has also been expanded so that all in the supply chain have a responsibility to act on the authority and are obliged to communicate the terms of the BACC.

The interpretation of BACC's instruction by Transitional Facilities and the understanding, responsibility and use of BACC by wider general businesses associated with the supply chain have also been enhanced under the review.

BACCs are an important way that MPI communicates its requirements to facilities.

Additional measures in order to avoid false, misleading or incomplete information and measures to stop active attempts to hinder detection of uncleared goods have been added.

Taking reasonable steps to ensure that risk goods comply with the applicable Import Health Standard (IHS) has also been added as a duty.

It is possible that MPI may apply infringement notices in the Transitional Facility area in the future. Clients are reminded to keep up to date with information. Maintain your training or seek our advice.

MPI are working on improvements to the Transitional Facility programme in three main areas:

- Communications
- Training material
- Recording/Data collection

MPI recognised that Certificates are greatly appreciated by Accredited Persons and will stay as part of the programme. The accuracy and turnaround on receiving Certificates has greatly improved in the last 8 months.

If you have not received a certificate after training please contact 09 909 8511.

MPI will be introducing new IT systems as part of a wider IT development around the "Trade single entry" project with New Zealand Customs. There is no timeframe at the moment. However, major change is likely in the future.

If you as an Operator or AP are confused when trying to locate the 'right' person to talk to when you have a query the MPI 0800 222 018 is the best number to call.

MPI is currently undertaking a review of the TFGEN Standard. The Transitional Facility Standard is the Standard that most importers operate under.

As part of this review MPI will be sending out a survey to stakeholders (Transitional Facilities) to canvas views on:

- what works,
- what doesn't,
- how MPI can do it better,
- expectations from stakeholders.

We encourage you to participate as this is an opportunity to get improvements into the standard and operations as they relate to Transitional Facilities.

It is hoped that the review of TFGEN will be completed by the end of November 2013.

The latest version is available on the MPI website at http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/border/transitional-facilities/bnz-std-tfgen
LATEST BIOSECURITY PEST ALERTS

MPI has identified the following Biosecurity pests as a threat to New Zealand’s native birdlife. They also have the potential to cause damage to our fruit and vegetable crops, if they become established here.

**RED-VENTED BULBUL - PYCNONOTUS CAFER**

The Red-vented bulbul is native to Asia (Pakistan to Southwest China) and has also been established in numerous Pacific Islands. They have a small, red patch below their tail and tend to be more aggressive to other local birds. This bird has been detected and eradicated in Auckland previously.

Please click on the below link for a detailed description of the red-vented bulbul:


**GREAT WHITE BUTTERFLY**

The Great White Butterfly was first spotted in a Nelson garden in 2010. The eradication programmes put in place has limited the spread of the pest. This is a potentially serious pest for our native forests and also for horticulture.

For a full description of the great white butterfly, please click on the following link:


HOW YOU CAN HELP: Please report sightings of the above pests by ringing MPI Pest & Disease Freephone on 0800 80 99 66.

BIOSECURITY SIGNAGE and EQUIPMENT KIT

The AgriChain Centre offers a variety of signage options and a Biosecurity equipment kit. Please click on the following link to view our order form.


CHANGES TO THE FREQUENCY OF AP TRAINING

As part of the TFGEN review the frequency of Accredited Person training has changed from 01 July 2013.

The main change is that AP’s who have trained twice before will move to a 4 year training cycle.

Please note that if your training lapses by more than 3 months you will go back to a 2 yearly cycle.

TFO training remains on a 4 yearly renewal cycle and a separate course.
As part of our commitment to your business, we have developed a complementary Transitional Facility Operator (TFO) support pack which is provided to attendees of our TFO workshops. It contains several helpful tools for managing Biosecurity on site which we trust you will find useful.

**BIOSECURITY TRAINING & SUPPORT SERVICES:**

- Complimentary Accredited Person ID Card (AP Card), which includes the person's name, AP number and certificate expiry date
- Onsite MPI Biosecurity training at a preferential rate for a minimum of 6 attendees.
- Notification of your expired accreditation certificate for your Accredited Person and Transitional Facility Operator training and suitable training dates for refresher courses in your area.
- Preferential rates for existing Operating manual updates, written by us in the past two years.
- Price reduction for group bookings.

Should you wish to view our MPI Biosecurity training calendar, please click on the following link:
http://www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-training/

**CHINESE BIOSECURITY TRAINING:**

Biosecurity Services – 生物安全服务

- AP-TFO Training – AP-TFO 培训
- Inhouse Course – 公司内部培训
- Internal Audits – 内部审核
- Manual/Procedure Writing – 编写公司手册/程序
- Biosecurity Equipment – 生物安全仪器
- Consultancy – 咨询

* Please note all communication with MPI needs to be in English.

**UPDATE YOUR DETAILS ONLINE:**

Please go to the following link to update your details online in order for us to have your current contact details and send you Biosecurity training information updates.
http://www.agrichain-centre.com/update-your-details-online/

**BIOSECURITY SERVICES:**

- Biosecurity Adviser to be present when AP's are checking and unloading their first container.
- Biosecurity Training Awareness Staff training
- Biosecurity Consultation

**BIOSECURITY SOLUTIONS PACKAGE FOR NEW FACILITY APPLICATIONS:**

Depending on the nature of your importation and products, we have packages to assist you in your application to MPI for an Approved Transitional Facility Site.

Click on the link for a detailed description: http://www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-solutions/

**INTERNAL AUDITS & OPERATING MANUAL UPDATES:**

The Transitional Facility Operator must carry out regular self assessments of the facility to verify that activities continue to follow the procedures outlined in the Operating manual.

This should occur at a minimum once per year.

*Depending on the types of goods imported higher frequency of self assessments may be required. The Operating Manual itself should also be reviewed on an annual basis.

If you require guidance or if you would like The AgriChain Centre to conduct your Internal Audit and/or Operating manual update, please contact us in the office on 0800- 247-424 or email Leanne at lapleton@agrichain-centre.com to discuss your options and obtain a quote.

**PLEASE CONTACT OUR BIOSECURITY ENQUIRIES TEAM. PHONE (09)414-4536 or 0800-247-424**

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