

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/NZL/65/Add.2  
9 February 2001

(01-0624)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

### Addendum

The following communication, dated 8 February 2001 has been received from New Zealand.

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#### Import Health Standard for Used Cars, Vans and Utility Vehicles

On 29 August 2000, New Zealand notified to WTO members the draft import health standard for used cars, vans and utility vehicles from any country. The draft import health standard updated, and was intended to replace, the existing import health standard for cars, vans and utility vehicles from any country (3 December 1997). It was proposed that all used vehicles for export to New Zealand must be inspected externally and internally. Furthermore, all used vehicles arriving in New Zealand would need to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate, issued by the national plant protection organisation of the country of export, confirming that the import requirements specified in the import health standard had been met. The final date for comments on the draft import health standard closed on 25 October 2000.

New Zealand further notified WTO members on 9 October 2000 advising that the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry had reassessed the practicality of the initial implementation date. New Zealand advised that, once adopted, the import health standard was proposed to come into force on 1 March 2001.

As a result of the submissions received on the draft import health standard, a revised standard has now been released (7 February 2001). The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry undertook the initial risk assessment on the used vehicle import pathway as a result of the number of gypsy moth interceptions on used vehicles from Japan. The revised standard recognises that the findings of the risk assessment did not establish a clear need to strengthen the current import measures for used vehicles. Recent results of gypsy moth host testing work, carried out overseas by Forest Research scientists, indicate that gypsy moth does not in fact pose a significant threat to New Zealand's native trees, or to *Pinus* plantations.

The revised import health standard addresses the need to more explicitly reduce the risks associated with pre-shipment and on-arrival inspection arrangements. By introducing clear time limits for these inspections, MAF has strengthened the current requirements that every used vehicle entering New Zealand is inspected and decontaminated as required.

As the revised standard does not differ substantially from the current import health standard (3 December 1997), the new standard will be issued for implementation on 1 March 2001.

The revised import health standard can be obtained from the Mr Keawe Woodmore, Coordinator, New Zealand SPS Notification Authority, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand. Tel: +64 4 474 4226; Fax: +64 4 470 2730; E-mail: sps@maf.govt.nz.

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