



CIRCULAR:
MEAT QUALITY

File No: 1130-01 (PvdL)
Ref No: 91/MP/13, 91/14/2
Date Issued: 2.4.91
Review Date:
Key :

Distribution: All Meat Services Staff
Managers Animal Health Laboratories
Packing Houses (Game)

Subject: Trichinosis in Wild Pigs: Diagnosis

Relates to: Circular 84/14/3

1. Background

- 1.1 In August-September 1990, game premises were reviewed by Dr Kerl from Germany. During this review the issue of trichinosis testing was raised. Under German law the testing of all wild pigs for *Trichinella spiralis* is compulsory.
- 1.2 Some of the requirements of Meat Division Circular 84/14/3 are no longer valid.

2. Aim

To clarify procedures for sampling feral pigs for trichinosis.

3. Procedures

- 3.1 Export of wild pigs to Germany.

As of 29 April 1991 all wild pigs exported to Germany are to be tested for *Trichinella spiralis*.

- 3.2 Export to other markets and for domestic consumption.

Each wild pig with a weight of more than 68 kg (head on) is to be tested.

- 3.3 Sampling and testing procedures.

A fresh or chilled sample weighing not less than 30 g is to be taken from the diaphragmatic pillar of the pig and

forwarded to the Invermay, Palmerston North or Ruakura Animal Health Laboratories. Each sample is to be accompanied by an AGL 47. The geographical area where the pig was killed is to be recorded on the form.

All samples are to be tested by the pepsin digestion technique.

3.4 Positive cases are to be reported immediately to the Chief Meat Veterinary Officer by the Inspector.

3.5 There are various options for companies that process wild pigs.

- All carcasses are identified with the samples and are not processed until negative results have been received.
- Carcasses are processed while the samples are still being tested. Cartons can be matched to the samples. Cartons with product from animals that were positive can therefore be identified when the results are received.
- Batch processing of carcasses takes place. It is not possible to relate a sample to specific cartons but they can be matched to the batch. If any samples of a batch are positive the whole batch will be considered positive. The company can decide the size of a batch and it can consist of a full day's production.

Whatever option is chosen, no product is to be released until negative results have been received.

3.6 Circular 84/14/3 is now cancelled.

4. Implementation

The procedures for Germany are to be in place by 29 April 1991. All other procedures should currently be in place.



A I McKenzie
Chief Meat Veterinary Officer

cc MAF Quality Management North
Regional Manager
Business Manager (Meat Quality) Auckland

MAF Quality Management North Central
Regional Manager
Processing Operations Manager
National Business Manager (Meat Quality)

MAP Quality Management South
Regional Manager
Animal and Meat Services Manager

Supervising Meat Veterinarians
Circuit Veterinarians
Certifying Veterinarians
Supervising Meat Inspectors
Sole Charge Inspectors
Travelling Meat Inspectors

NZ Game Industry Board