

Changes to MAF Border Clearance Fees

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In April 2006, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) issued a discussion paper entitled Border Clearance Costs and Organism Identification Requirements outlining changes proposed to the costs of cargo clearance services provided by MAF under the Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations 2003, including revised fees. MAF subsequently advised affected stakeholders of modifications to some of the key proposals on 6 June 2006.

MAF can now confirm that the new fees, contained in the Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations 2006 and the Shipping Container Levy 2006 will come into force on 7 September 2006. However the Biosecurity Risk Screening Levy 2006 will come into effect on 1 October 2006 in order to align with New Zealand Customs Service's monthly billing cycle to importers, as this charge will be collected by Customs on MAF's behalf. In the intervening period, regulation 7 of the 2003 regulations pertaining to the inspection of import documentation will remain in place.

The new fees will affect anyone who ships or imports goods (including passengers bringing in risk goods in their baggage) or anyone who operates a transitional or containment facility.

A summary of the major categories of fees as follows;

Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations 2006, Shipping Container Levy 2006, and Biosecurity Risk Screening Levy 2006

Listed below is a summary of the new major categories of charges for the Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations 2006, the Shipping Container Levy and the Biosecurity Risk Screening Levy. The Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations and the shipping container levy come into force on 7 September 2006. The biosecurity risk screening levy comes into effect on 1 October 2006. The new fees and levies replace the charges in the Biosecurity (Costs) Regulations 2003.

Category of Activity New charges (GST incl.) effective from 7 September 2006
Inspection of following goods:

- Unaccompanied baggage or effects;
- Nursery stock & freshcut flowers;

- Seeds/other plant material;
- Fresh fruit and vegetables;
- Forest produce;
- Stored produce;
- Non complying shipping containers;
- Fishmeal;
- Fresh produce;
- Goods at the International Mail Centre other than those imported for the personal use of the importer;
- Goods not elsewhere specified in this table.

\$100 per hour for each general inspector involved. Offshore inspection of ships.

\$100 per hour plus actual and reasonable cost of travel to and from ship.
Surveillance of discharge of goods.

\$100 per hour for each general inspector involved.

Monitoring and verification of sea containers. A levy of \$16 per full container;

A levy of \$7 per empty container. Inspection and each re-inspection after treatment of used vehicles and machinery. Used motorcycle/moped: \$15.00 Used motor vehicle not exceeding 3,500 kg: \$25.00 Used motor vehicle exceeding 3,500 kg: \$50.00 Machinery & equipment, vehicle parts: \$100.00 per hour for each general inspector involved

Inspection of an animal that is intended to be cleared or directed to a transitional or containment facility on arrival.

\$28.70 per animal Inspection and monitoring of animals held in transitional or containment facilities.

\$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved.

Inspection of an animal on board a craft within NZ territory and not intended to be cleared.

\$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved.

Monitoring controls on new organisms in containment facilities. \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 per hour for each veterinary inspector

involved.

Inspection of a consignment of animal material; trade samples.

Inspection of biological products, veterinary medicines and agricultural compounds. \$28.70 \$57.40 Inspection and monitoring of plants held in a transitional or containment facilities. \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved.

Biosecurity risk screening of import documentation. A levy of \$3.38 on all import consignments that attract a NZ Customs Service import entry transaction fee will be imposed from 1 October 2006. From 7 September 2006 until 1 October 2006, a fee of \$28.70 will apply to inspected import documents, as per regulation 7 of the 2003 regulations.

Organism identification carried out by MAF Quarantine Service. \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved.

Organism identification at an off-site MAF laboratory. The fees for organism identification at MAF Investigation and Diagnostic Centres (IDCs) are not regulated. Importers may use the IDCs or MAF approved providers of these services. The fees for organism identification carried out at MAF IDCs are available on the MAF website.

Treatment of risk goods imported with a person's baggage, through the mail or with personal effects. Actual and reasonable costs of treatment payable prior to treatment; and any costs of packaging, storing, forwarding and returning the goods before and after treatment.

Treatment of other risk goods. Actual and reasonable costs of treatment; and any costs of packaging, storing, forwarding and returning the goods before and after treatment.

Destruction, transportation, reshipment or other disposal of goods. \$100 per hour plus actual and reasonable costs.

Supervising or advising on destruction, transportation, reshipment or other disposal of goods. \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved.

Permits processed under import health standards and amendments to permits \$105 per permit processed or amended.

Approval and auditing of transitional and containment facilities and facility operators \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved.

Travel costs Zone travel charge: 0 to 10 km: \$45 11 to 25 km: \$70 26 to 50 km: \$140 51 to 75 km: \$200

Over 75km based on the hourly rate of the inspector or veterinary inspector for the time that the inspector has spent away from base, plus actual and reasonable costs.

Call outs where inspection work is needed outside normal times. \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved.

These costs are additional to inspection costs.

Waiting time \$100 per hour for each general inspector involved; and \$96.10 for each veterinary inspector involved