



Quarantine E-News

Issue 4

April 2012

Email:
Awareness@samoaquarantine.gov.ws

Inside this issue:

Issue of Zoosanitary Certificate	1
Cook Island Bio-security Observer	
Empty bottles from the Tokelau for Fumigation	2
3rd Pacific Invasive Learning Workshop	3
Welcome Cruise liners	

Issue of Zoosanitary Certificate

There are 2 types of Sanitary Certificates that are vital and important in the areas of Quarantine, where it is often a requirement by the importing country. This is proof that the item or commodity of concern has been found to be free of pests and diseases. Each importing country has its' own quarantine requirements for various consignments. There is the Phytosanitary certificate, and the Zoosanitary certificate which would be briefed in this issue. Zoosanitary certificate is a documentation required for certifying Animals and Animal Products, originating from Samoa. Animals such as cats, dogs, pigs, cows and so forth will need to undergo thorough medical check by Samoa's government veterinarian to ensure that these animals are not suffering from any infectious diseases that may be capable of spreading. The certification issued certifies that the animal and animal products mentioned have been inspected according to appropriate procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests, free from other injurious pests, and that they conform with the current zoosanitary regulations of the importing country. Find below some examples of animal products that require certification.



Importing countries have various requirements and are subject to different conditions for different animal and animal products

Cook Island Bio-security Observer

Bio-security official from Rarotonga, Mr Tetupu Apera, observed at the Quarantine office for 1 week, as his government were proposing to ship over general goods cargo to the outskirts of Cook Islands. There are 15 inhabited islands of the Cooks, where the capital is Rarotonga. They have a pristine environment with many of the islands having freedom from Giant African Snail, Fruit fly and many of the exotic pests that currently exists in Samoa and majority of the Pacific Island Countries. He observed the inspection procedures and clearance of general cargo by the Samoa Quarantine Service, which is similar to protocols adhered to in his motherland. There was also on-site observation of fine mats being fumigated.



Biosecurity official from Rarotonga, Mr Tetupu Apera, inspecting some of the general cargo

- ### Keep in Mind!
- ◆ Ensure proper certification of all animal and animal products in accordance with the importing countries' requirements.
 - ◆ Always ask if you are unsure of any quarantine risk items that you may be carrying or bringing into Samoa.
 - ◆ Call the Quarantine Office at Matautu, Faleolo or Fagalii for queries on export or import commodities.
 - ◆ Quarantine staff at the border are available to assist you so do not hesitate to ask questions.

Con't: Cook Island Bio-security Observer

In the Cook Islands, there is a mere total of only 10 staff allocated to the main port of Rarotonga and additional Bio-security officials in the outer islands of Aitutaki, Pukapuka, Manihiki and Atiu. They receive an estimated 24 international flights each week, mostly from New Zealand, where this finds their ports actively accumulating foreign and locals alike with a majority of cargo and carriage.



Mr. Tetupu Apera (Lax)

On behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture; Antony Brown, Chief Biosecurity; Ngatoko Ngatoko and the staff of the Biosecurity of Rarotonga, Ministry of Agriculture would like to acknowledge the support of the staff of Quarantine, in assistance with my stay here, firstly the ACEO, Pelenato Fonoti for his allowing my observing and allocating his staff assistance. Not forgetting Senior Seaport Officer, Mr Vesi Ioane, for his time and assistance in making the clearance at ease and making me feel at home.

Empty bottles from Tokelau Require Fumigation

The Lady Naomi voyage chartering the passengers from Tokelau, arrived with a few passengers and loads of cargo offload. The on duty officials were actively on site to carry out normal cargo and passenger inspections and clearance. It is strengthened that upon completion of the inspection and clearance of cargo and passengers, the entire vessel is also required to undergo thorough inspection. The necessity of inspection is to emphasize and determine the safety of the vessel and compliance to Quarantine's Bio-security legislation. The majority of the voyages that arrive from the Tokelau, usually carries passengers bringing in mainly seafood products, especially fish, as it is in abundance there. Usually for consignments concerning seafood would require honest declaration on the arrival form. Then inspection and release would be carried out, just to ensure that the interceptions are secure and hygiene and free of contamination. In other cases, collection of empty bottles for the distribution to the Vailima Breweries, shown a large quantity of empty glass bottles from Tokelau collected for the brewery. But upon release, fumigation was recommended to avoid any interception or possible spread of existing pest or disease control



The many sacks of empty bottles from the Tokelau voyage to undergo the 24 hours fumigation treatment

Other items that may require fumigation purposes before it reaches Samoa:

- ◆ Used tyres
- ◆ Timber
- ◆ Handicrafts
- ◆ Empty containers

3rd Pacific Invasive Learning Network Workshop on Kiritimati island

The workshop for the Pacific Invasive Learning Network (PILN), which was held on 22nd—27th March, and participants from across the region who are part of the Invasive team, had its 3rd workshop on the island of Kiritimati, in Kiribati. This is a joint collaboration of Pacific Island nations to fight to secure our islands. This weeklong event was organised and facilitated by the SPREP and the Kiribati government.

PILN's mission is to enhance invasive species management participant driven network that meets priority needs, share skills and resources, linkages to technical expertise, information exchange and accelerate on the ground action, or field work capacity. The purpose topic was to identify shared priority issues and direction for PILN teams, coordinators and partners.



The future faces of Kiritimati island

Topics on the agenda ranged from areas of conducting management on aquatic invasive, to bio-control, as group meetings for discussion, and effective fundraising purposes for future PILN workshops, invasive species management on a regional basis and engaging stakeholders, regional collaboration and capacity building, and effective coordination of national invasive species teams. The attendance of our fellow Quarantine colleague, is of vital concern as the effective management at the borders is spearheaded by the Quarantine division which identifies and carries out effective management of animal and animal products, or plant and plant products, which indirectly relates to the introduction of invasive and protection of existing biodiversity.

Welcome Cruiseliners

Not 1, not 2 but 3 Cruise ships arrived on to our shores for the month of April alone. It is through the arrival of these cruise liners that promote Samoa's natural beauty and assist in enhancing our tourist industry and general income. But in this industry, we must not take lightly their arrival, as to be vigilant in inspections and clearance, as these cruise ship may harbor pests or disease of plants and animals. The MV Volendam Rotterdam, it's last port Sydney, Australia, the Dawn Princess, also from Australia and the Rhapsody Seas Nassau, all arrived in the early hours of the morning with Estimated time of arrival at 0600 and 0700 hours



Prior to the arrival of all these cruise ships, none were advised that their rubbish would be collected for Quarantine action at the wharf, only PA announcement of the continual action upon what is not permitted to take aboard the ship and what you may not bring aboard. Most of these ships undergo passenger clearance, and it was noted that a particular passenger wanted to take garland leis to Hawaii onto the ship. The usual process was done for a certification of these plants and ensuring that the importing country, which was Hawaii, on their importing conditions.

Samoa Quarantine

**Matautu Office—20924
Fagalii Airport—28775
Faleolo Airport—42048
Facsimile—20103**

Protect Samoa from Pests and Diseases