

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL VELVETTERS:

REGULATED CONTROL SCHEME FOR DEER VELVET HARVEST

- The National Velvetting Standards Body (NVSB) de-velvetting programme has now been regulated by the Ministry for Primary Industries.
- The Regulated Control Scheme for Deer Velvet Harvest (RCS) came into force on 7 August 2017 and is now a mandatory requirement. See: www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/19379
- The RCS applies to a farmer, a velvetter, any person who handles or stores deer velvet, and any person who transports deer velvet after harvest.
- The prime purpose of the RCS is to ensure that deer velvet intended for export complies with market access requirements throughout its harvesting, handling, storage and transport.
- Details and a link to the RCS can be found on the DINZ website or at: www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/19379
- Copies of the Q&A explanation sheets can also be found on the DINZ website: www.deernz.org
- A photo gallery of examples of velvetting facilities is being compiled on the DINZ website. Current photos show some “clean zones” meeting the requirements, some with work in progress and some that require work in order to comply.
- The RCS sets out the requirements that must be met in order to be able to sell your velvet for the purposes of export.
- A completed Seasonal Declaration constitutes the farmer's declaration that velvet has been harvested and managed in accordance with the requirements of the RCS and according to the requirements of the NVSB programme. This declaration is relied upon by the buyer when preparing the Velvet Supply Declaration (VSD) for export certification purposes.
- Auditing of velvet facilities to ensure they meet the RCS requirements can only be undertaken by MPI recognised persons.
- Auditing of velvet facilities to ensure they meet the RCS requirements can only be undertaken by MPI recognised persons. NVSB auditors are recognised persons under the Act. Other recognised persons such as MPI compliance officers can also audit velvetting premises. When RCS audits are scheduled, there is a requirement to complete velvetting audits for all certified persons associated with that location.

If you are a velvetter and are concerned, confused and or unsure what to do and need assistance then please contact any of the following National Velvetting Standards Body (NVSB) persons

NVSB Committee:

Andrew Scurr (Chair), 027 687 5448
Amy Watts, 021 446 583
David Morgan, 027 230 3357
John Somerville, 027 447 5437

NVSB Executive:

Merryn Pugh (Quality Assurance Manager) 027 298 5861 or merryn.pugh@deernz.org
Meg Barnes (Quality Systems Coordinator) 04 471 6114 or meg.barnes@deernz.org