

ADVICE FOR INTERNATIONAL ARCHERS UTILISING TRADITIONAL WOODEN BOWS AND ARROWS ON ARRIVAL IN NEW ZEALAND FOR THE WIAC 2019

QUOTE: New Zealand has very strict biosecurity procedures at our international borders to prevent the introduction of harmful pests and diseases. All risk goods must be declared. If you're unsure – declare.

The important thing to observe is that your equipment is washed and clean from any form of contamination. This will ensure smooth transition. Observing the following procedure should pass you through without any issue, however occasionally an inexperienced officer not able to identify risk may pass you for further visual inspection of the items

An arrival card is issued to visitors which lists items for declaration.

DECLARE ON THAT CARD IN THE SECTION NUMBER 5:

Plants or plant products: fruit, flowers, seeds, bulbs, wood, bark, leaves, nuts, vegetables, parts of plants, fungi, cane, bamboo or straw, including for religious offerings or medicinal use – YES

This will result in an officer asking you what items you are carrying.

It is important to advise the officer that the items are wooden bows and arrows, (Not classed as “offensive weapons”) made from wood, for the indoor archery competition in NZ . Explain the items are clean and available for inspection if required. (Take note in packing this might occur, so pack accordingly)

Here is the official information:

Plants and plant products

Declare all plant material. Some types of products are prohibited.

All plant material must be declared. Items may need treatment or an import permit, and some products are prohibited. Examples of plants and plant products that must be declared include:

- dried and fresh flowers
- seeds
- plant cuttings
- items made of bamboo, cane, rattan, coconut, straw
- items made of wood, for example, drums, carvings, masks, weapons, or tools
- pine cones
- any souvenirs made from plant material – for example, corn and straw, including items stuffed with seeds and straw

Further information regarding OUTDOOR equipment – again it is important to advise that IF your equipment has been used outdoors, it has been washed and is free from any contamination.

It is likely that they may inspect the items, so ensure in your packing they can be made readily available for inspection

Below is the official information

Used equipment

Anything used outdoors – on farms, for hiking, camping, fishing, gardening and the like.



Used equipment, like sporting and recreational equipment, must be declared on your passenger arrival card.

This type of equipment can transfer soil and plant material from other countries into New Zealand that may carry pests, diseases, and seeds – all of which can pose a threat to our environment and wildlife. Some contaminants such as viruses, bacteria and fungi are not visible and may be present on used equipment that appears clean to the naked eye.

Equipment might be inspected on arrival so it should be easy to reach in your luggage.

If you are unsure about whether or not your equipment needs inspecting – declare it.

If you are using natural FEATHER VANES, then the following is of note:

Import Health Standard as follows <http://mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/3046>

2.11 Feathers

2.11.1 Documentation

(1) Commercial consignments of washed loose feathers must be accompanied by the following documentation: a) A manufacturer's declaration verifying that the feathers have been treated in accordance with clause 2.11.2(1) of this standard.

2.11.2 Requirements

(1) Commercial consignments of loose feathers must be commercially washed or be free from visible contamination on inspection.

(2) Commercially manufactured items containing feathers (see definition in Schedule 1) that are free from visible contamination (e.g. blood, skin, manure, soil, plant material, pests) are eligible for biosecurity clearance.

(3) Individual feathers that are washed or are clean on inspection are eligible for biosecurity clearance.

(4) Contaminated feathers must be authorised to a transitional facility for treatment as outlined below: a) Fumigation with formalin (10% formaldehyde) for 8 hours in accordance with the Code; or

b) Gamma irradiation with a dose of 20 kGy in accordance with the Code.

The definition under Schedule 1 is given in the following:-- **Commercially Manufactured Items Containing Feathers**

Commercially manufactured items containing feathers include but is not limited to shuttle cocks, dyed boas, dusters, feathers in hats, fishing flies, quilts, duvets, pillows, feathers for musical instruments, feathers in cultural performance items, handicrafts, and artifacts.

AGAIN – Just ensure feathers are clean and clear of any contamination.

Perhaps carry a copy of this information to show you are aware of the requirements, and have no items that pose any Bio-Security risk