



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

January 14, 2021

Veterinary Services
Strategy and Policy
Live Animal Imports

**Notice: Guidance Regarding Update to Equine Testing During Import
Quarantine**

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USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) updated the testing protocol for horses imported into the United States.

Effective January 25, 2021, the updated [VS Guidance 13407.2, Testing of Equidae During Import Quarantine](#), will apply and be enforced at all import quarantine facilities.

Imported horses must test negative to official tests for dourine, glanders, equine piroplasmiasis, and equine infectious anemia to qualify for release from import quarantine in accordance to [Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations \(9 CFR\) Part 93.308](#).

Under the updated [VS Guidance 13407.2](#), horses with non-negative test results for dourine, glanders and equine piroplasmiasis may extend quarantine up to twenty-eight (28) days to be retested accordingly ¹. Extended stays are subject to the quarantine facilities' space availability and all fees incurred will be at the expense of the importer of record. Any horse with confirmed non-negative test results after twenty-eight (28) days will be refused entry. Horses refused entry must be either exported out of the United States within ten (10) days of refusal notification or humanely euthanized.

Only horses imported on or after January 25, 2021, will be tested in accordance to [VS Guidance 13407.2](#). Any horses imported before this date will be tested in accordance to VS Guidance 13407.1, dated January 26, 2018.

USDA encourages all stakeholders to review and share the testing guidance for understanding.

For further information please visit the [USDA APHIS VS Live Animal Imports](#) website or contact Live Animal Imports at (301) 851-3300.

¹ The current protocol for horses testing non-negative for equine infectious anemia remains unchanged.