



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

June 7, 2021

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Washington, DC  
20250

**Notice Regarding Handling and Disposal Requirements for  
Organic Material of Foreign Origin Accompanying  
Imported Horses**

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) requires equine import quarantine facility operators to follow the handling and disposal requirements for organic material of foreign origin accompanying imported horses.

Organic material of foreign origin accompanying imported horses on a conveyance must satisfy all import requirements of the responsible regulating agency(ies) in order to be eligible for entry into the United States (U.S.), and to be considered for disposal as domestic waste. Organic materials include, but are not limited to, bedding, straw, hay, processed/fresh feed, nutraceuticals, and pharmaceuticals.

Organic material of foreign origin accompanying imported horses on a conveyance that satisfies all import requirements of the responsible regulating agencies must be held at the import quarantine facility with the horse shipment until the import quarantine is complete. Once the shipment has been released from quarantine, the foreign organic material may be disposed of as domestic waste. Waste from horses refused entry due to non-negative test results for equine infectious anemia (EIA), equine piroplasmiasis, dourine, or glanders must be disposed of as regulated waste in an APHIS approved manner, such as [incineration](#).

Organic material of foreign origin accompanying live, imported horses on a conveyance that does not satisfy all import requirements must be disposed of as regulated waste in an APHIS approved manner regardless of the disease status or test results of horses.

USDA-APHIS encourages stakeholders to review and share this notice.

For more information, please visit the [USDA APHIS VS Live Animal Imports](#) website or contact Live Animal Imports at (301) 851-3300, option 2, or email [VS.Live.Animal.Import.Export@usda.gov](mailto:VS.Live.Animal.Import.Export@usda.gov).