

TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS
COMMISSION

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CHAPTER 12.9.

EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS

Article 12.9.1.

General provisions

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, equine viral arteritis (EVA) is defined as an *infection* of domestic and feral members of the family, *Equidae*.

This chapter deals not only with the occurrence of clinical signs caused by equine arteritis virus (EAV), but also with the presence of infection with EAV in the absence of clinical signs. For the purposes of this chapter, isolation is defined as the separation of domestic equids from those of a different EVA health status, utilising appropriate biosecurity measures, with the objective of preventing the transmission of *infection*.

The *infective period* for equine viral arteritis (EVA) shall be 28 days for all categories of equine except sexually mature stallion where the *infective period* may be for the life of the *animal*. Because the *infective period* may be extended in the case of virus shedding in semen, the status of seropositive stallions should be checked to ensure that they do not shed virus in their semen.

Standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 12.9.2.

Recommendations for the importation of uncastrated male equines

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals* showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and during the 28 days prior to shipment and met one of the following requirements:

1. were isolated for the 28 days prior to shipment and were subjected, to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on a single blood sample collected during the 21 days prior to shipment with negative result; or
2. were subjected between 6 and 9 months of age to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on two blood samples collected at least 14 days apart with stable or decreasing titre, immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly revaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions; or
3. met the following requirements:
 - a) were isolated; and
 - b) not earlier than 7 days of commencing isolation were ~~tested, with negative results, with~~ subjected to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* on a blood sample with negative result; and
 - c) were then immediately vaccinated; and
 - d) were kept separated from other equidae for 21 days following vaccination; and
 - e) were revaccinated regularly according to the manufacturer's instructions; or

4. have been subjected to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on a blood sample with positive results and then: either
 - a) were subsequently test mated to two mares within 6 months prior to shipment which were subjected to two tests for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results on blood samples collected at the time of test mating and again 28 days after the mating; or
 - b) were subjected to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results, carried out on semen collected during the 6 months prior to shipment; **or**
 - c) were subjected to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results, carried out on semen collected within 6 months after the blood sample was tested, then immediately vaccinated, and revaccinated regularly **in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.**

Article 12.9.3.

Recommendations for the importation of equines other than uncastrated males

Veterinary Authorities of importing countries should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals* showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and were kept in an *establishment* where no *animals* have shown any signs of EVA for the 28 days prior to shipment; and

EITHER

1. were kept in an *establishment* where no *animals* have shown any signs of EVA for the 28 days prior to shipment; and
 - a) were subjected to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on blood samples collected on two occasions at least 14 days apart within 28 days prior to shipment, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres; or
 - b) were regularly vaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions;

OR

2. were isolated for the 28 days prior to shipment and during this period the *animals* showed no signs of EVA.

Article 12.9.4.

Recommendations for the importation of **equine semen**

Veterinary Authorities of importing countries should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animal donors were kept for the 28 days prior to semen collection in an *establishment* where no equine has shown any clinical sign of EVA during that period and showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of semen collection; and

1. were subjected between 6 and 9 months of age to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* on two blood samples collected at least 14 days apart with a stable or decreasing titre, immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly revaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions; or
2. were isolated and not earlier than 7 days of commencing isolation were subjected to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* on a blood sample with negative results, immediately vaccinated for EVA, kept for 21 days following vaccination separated from other equidae and regularly revaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions; or

3. were subjected to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* on a blood sample with negative results within 14 days prior to semen collection, and had been separated from other equidae not of an equivalent EVA status for 14 days prior to blood sampling ~~from the time of the taking of the blood sample until the end of semen collection;~~ or
4. have been subjected to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* carried out on a blood sample with positive results and then: either
 - a) were subsequently test mated to two mares within 6 months prior to semen collection, which were subjected to two tests for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results on blood samples collected at the time of test mating and again 28 days after the test mating, or
 - b) were subjected to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results, carried out on semen collected within 6 months prior to collection of the semen to be exported; or
 - c) were subjected to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results, carried out on semen collected within 6 months after the blood sample was tested, then immediately vaccinated, and revaccinated regularly; or
5. ~~were~~, for frozen semen, were subjected with negative results either:
 - a) to a test for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* carried out on a blood sample taken not earlier than 14 days and not later than 12 months after the collection of the semen for export; or
 - b) to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* carried out on an aliquot of the semen collected immediately prior to processing or on an aliquot of semen collected within 14 to 30 days after the first collection of the semen to be exported.