

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission Report

March 2009

CHAPTER 8.16.

SWINE VESICULAR DISEASE

Article 8.16.1.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *incubation period* for swine vesicular disease (SVD) shall be 28 days.

For the purposes of this Chapter, susceptible animals include domestic and wild pigs.

For the purposes of this Chapter, a case includes an animal infected with SVD virus (SVDV).

For the purposes of *international trade*, this Chapter deals not only with the occurrence of clinical signs caused by SVDV, but also with the presence of infection with SVDV in the absence of clinical signs.

For the purposes of this Chapter, virus infection means presence of SVDV as demonstrated by:

1. virus isolation, or detection of virus antigen or virus nucleic acid, or
2. seroconversion, or
3. clinical signs associated with serological evidence, or
4. clinical signs or serological evidence associated with epidemiological link.

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

Article 8.16.2.

SVD free country, zone or compartment

Susceptible animals in the SVD free country or *zone* or *compartment* should be separated from neighbouring infected countries or *zones* by animal health measures (bio-security measures, which may include a *buffer zone*) that effectively prevent the entry of the virus, or by physical barriers.

The SVD status of a country, *zone* or *compartment* can only be determined by applying *surveillance* recommendations described in Chapter 1.4. according to two possibilities:

1. Historically free status

A country or *zone* may be considered free from the *disease* without formally applying a specific *surveillance* programme if the provisions of Article 1.4.6. are complied with.

2. Free status as a result of a specific surveillance programme

A country, *zone* or *compartment* which does not meet the conditions of point 1 above may be considered free from SVD when:

- a) *surveillance* for both SVD and SVDV infection in accordance with Chapter 1.4. has been in place for at least 3 years;
- b) no *outbreak* of SVD and no evidence of SVDV circulation has been found during the past 3 years;
- c) regulatory measures for the prevention and control of SVD have been implemented, including the control of the movement of susceptible animals and other relevant measures for preventing the entry of the virus.

If a *stamping-out policy* was applied in respect of the most recent *outbreak*, the requirement of 3 years in points a) and b) above is shortened to 12 months.

Article 8.16.3.

SVD infected country or zone

An SVD infected country or *zone* is a country or *zone* that does not fulfill the requirements to be considered as free.

Article 8.16.4.

Establishment of a containment zone within an SVD free country or SVD free zone

In the event of a limited *outbreak* within an SVD free country or SVD free *zone*, a single *containment zone*, which includes all *cases*, can be established for the purpose of minimizing the impact on the entire country or *zone*. For this to be achieved, the *Veterinary Authority* should be able to provide documented evidence that:

1. the *outbreak* is limited based on the following factors:
 - a) immediately on suspicion, a rapid response including notification has been made;
 - b) standstill of animal movements has been imposed, and effective controls on the movement of other *commodities* mentioned in this Chapter are in place;
 - c) epidemiological investigation (trace-back, trace-forward) has been completed;
 - d) the source of the *outbreak* has been identified;
 - e) all *cases* have been shown to be epidemiologically linked;
2. *surveillance* in accordance with Chapter 1.4. demonstrates that there are no undetected *cases* in the *containment zone*;
3. a *stamping-out policy* has been applied;
4. increased passive and targeted *surveillance* in accordance with Chapter 1.4. in the rest of the country or *zone* has been carried out and has not detected any evidence of *infection*;

5. measures to prevent spread of the *infection* from the *containment zone* to the rest of the country or *zone*, are in place.

The free status of the area outside the *containment zone* would be suspended pending the establishment of the *containment zone*. The suspension of free status of this area could be lifted irrespective of the provisions of Article 8.16.5., once the *containment zone* is clearly established, by complying with points 1 to 5 above.

The recovery of the SVD free status of the *containment zone* should follow the provisions of Article 8.16.5.

When importing from *containment zones*, provisions of Articles 8.16.6., 8.16.9., 8.16.11. and 8.16.13., concerning the importation from countries or *zones* considered infected with SVD, should be applied.

Article 8.16.5.

Recovery of free status

When an SVD *outbreak* or SVDV infection occurs in an SVD free country or *zone*, one of the following waiting periods is required to regain the status of SVD free country or *zone*:

1. 2 months after the *stamping-out* of the last *case*, where a *containment zone* and serological *surveillance* have been applied in accordance with Chapter 1.4.; or
2. 12 months after the *stamping-out* of the last *case*, where the conditions for the establishment of a *containment zone* are not fulfilled, a *stamping-out policy* and serological *surveillance* have been applied in accordance with Chapter 1.4.

Where both a *stamping-out policy* and serological *surveillance* in accordance with Chapter X.X. have not been practiced, the above waiting periods do not apply, and Article 8.16.2. applies.

Article 8.16.6.

Transfer directly to slaughter of SVD susceptible animals from an infected zone to a free zone within a country

SVD susceptible animals should only leave the *infected zone* if moved by mechanised transport to the nearest designated *abattoir*, located in the *buffer zone* (if established), directly to *slaughter*.

In the absence of an *abattoir* in the *buffer zone*, or in the absence of a *buffer zone*, live SVD susceptible animals can be transported to the nearest *abattoir* in a free *zone* directly to *slaughter* only under the following conditions:

1. no SVD susceptible animal has been introduced into the *establishment* of origin and no animal in the *establishment* of origin has shown clinical signs of SVD for at least 60 days prior to movement;
2. a representative sample of animals of the *herd* of origin, including all animals to be moved for *slaughter* has been serologically tested with negative findings;
3. the animals were kept in the *establishment* of origin for at least 2 months prior to movement;
4. SVD has not occurred within a 1-kilometre radius of the *establishment* of origin for at least 2 months prior to movement;

5. the animals must be transported under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* in a *vehicle*, which was cleansed and disinfected before *loading*, directly from the *establishment* of origin to the *abattoir* without coming into contact with other susceptible animals;
6. such an *abattoir* is not approved for the export of *fresh meat* during the time it is handling the *meat* of animals from the *infected zone* and, to be re-approved, must apply *disinfections* able to destroy any residual infectivity;
7. *vehicles* and the *abattoir* must be subjected to thorough cleansing and *disinfection* able to destroy any residual *infectivity* immediately after use.

All products obtained from the animals and any products coming into contact with them must be identified and traded only on domestic market.

Animals moved into a free *zone* for other purposes must be moved under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* and comply with the conditions in Article 8.16.9.

Article 8.16.7

Recommendations for importation from SVD free countries, zones or compartment

for domestic pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

1. showed no clinical sign of SVD on the day of shipment;
2. were kept in an SVD free country, *zone* or *compartment* since birth or for at least the past 60 days.

Article 8.16.8.

Recommendations for importation from SVD free countries or zones

for wild pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

1. showed no clinical sign of SVD on the day of shipment;
2. come from an SVD free country or *zone*;

if the country or *zone* of origin has a common border with a country or *zone* considered infected with SVD:

3. were kept in a *quarantine station* for the 60 days prior to shipment and were subjected to a prescribed serological test for SVD with negative results during that period.

Article 8.16.9.

Recommendations for importation from countries or zones considered infected with SVD

for domestic and wild pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

1. showed no clinical sign of SVD on the day of shipment;
2. were kept in a *quarantine station* for the 60 days prior to shipment and were subjected to a prescribed serological test for SVD with negative findings during that period.

Article 8.16.10.

Recommendations for importation from SVD free countries or zones or compartments

for semen of pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. the donor animals:
 - a) showed no clinical sign of SVD on the day of collection of the semen;
 - b) were kept in an SVD free country or *zone* or *compartment* for not less than 60 days prior to collection;
2. the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 4.6.

Article 8.16.11.

Recommendations for importation from countries or zones considered infected with SVD

for semen of pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. the donor animals showed no clinical sign of SVD on the day of collection of the semen and were subjected to a prescribed serological test for SVD with negative findings;
2. the donor animals were kept in the *exporting country* or *zone* for the 60 days prior to collection, in an *establishment* or *artificial insemination centre* where no *case* of SVD was officially reported during that period, and that the *establishment* or *artificial insemination centre* was not situated within one km from an *outbreak* occurring in the last 60 days;
3. a representative sample of animals of the *herd* of origin has been serologically tested with negative findings;
4. the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 4.6.

Article 8.16.12.

Recommendations for importation from SVD free countries, zones or compartments

for fresh meat of pigs

Veterinary Authorities should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat* comes from animals:

1. which have been kept in an SVD free country, *zone* or *compartment* since birth or for at least the past 60 days;
2. which have been slaughtered in an *approved abattoir* and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for SVD with favourable outcome.

Article 8.16.13

Recommendations for the importation of *meat products* of pigs (either domestic or wild), or for products of animal origin (from *fresh meat* of pigs) intended for use in animal feeding, for agricultural or industrial use, or for pharmaceutical or surgical use, or for trophies derived from wild pigs

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the products:

1. have been prepared:
 - a) exclusively from *fresh meat* meeting the conditions laid down in Article 8.16.12, as relevant;
 - b) in a processing establishment:
 - i) approved by the *Veterinary Authority* for export purposes;
 - ii) processing only *meat* meeting the conditions laid down in Article 8.16.12, as relevant;

OR

2. have been processed in an establishment approved by the *Veterinary Authority* for export purposes so as to ensure the destruction of the SVD virus.

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