

USA Comments

CHAPTER 8.3. - BLUETONGUE

Suggest changes:

Article 8.3.8.

Recommendations for importation from BTV infected countries or zonesfor ruminants and other BTV susceptible herbivores

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

1. were protected from attack from *Culicoides* in ~~an~~ a ~~insect proof~~ vector protected establishment for at least 60 days prior to shipment and during transportation to the *place of shipment*; or
2. were protected from attack from *Culicoides* in ~~an~~ a ~~insect proof~~ vector protected establishment for at least 28 days prior to shipment and during transportation to the *place of shipment*, and were subjected during that period to a serological test according to the *Terrestrial Manual* to detect antibody to the BTV group, with negative results, carried out at least 28 days after introduction into the ~~insect proof~~ vector protected establishment; or
3. were protected from attack from *Culicoides* in ~~an~~ a ~~insect proof~~ vector protected establishment for at least 14 days prior to shipment and during transportation to the *place of shipment*, and were subjected during that period to an agent identification test according to the *Terrestrial Manual*, with negative results, carried out at least 14 days after introduction into the ~~insect proof~~ vector protected establishment; or

Rationale: Grammar

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Article 8.3.15.

Protecting animals from *Culicoides* attack**1. Vector-protected establishment or facility**

The means of protection of the *establishment* or facility should at least comprise the following:

- a) double-door entry-exit system;
- b) openings of the building are *vector* screened with mesh of appropriate aperture size (~~under study~~) impregnated regularly with an approved insecticide according to manufacturers' instruction;

Note: One option available for aperture size is the use of tensile bolting cloth, Mesh size 80.
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- c) *vector* surveillance and control within and around the building;
- d) measures to limit breeding sites for *vectors* in vicinity of the *establishment* or facility;
- e) Standard Operating Procedure, including description of back-up and alarm systems, for operation of the *establishment* or facility and transport of ~~horses~~ *animals* to the place of *loading*.

Rationale: The United States believes this was an entry error. The intent being to protect all animals, not just horses.

2. During transportation

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