

TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 2010 REPORT

USA Comments

CHAPTER 8.15.

VESICULAR STOMATITIS

Article 8.15.1.

General provisions and safe commodities

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *incubation period* for vesicular stomatitis (VS) shall be 21 days.

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

When authorizing the import or transit of the following *commodities* and any products made from these *commodities*, *Veterinary Authorities* should not require any VS related conditions, regardless of the VS status of the *exporting country*:

- a) Milk and milk products;
- b) Hides and skins;
- c) Meat and meat products;
- d) Tallow;
- e) Gelatin and collagen;

Rationale: As the OIE has already been doing for some Code Chapters, the United States recommends adding a list of safe commodities to this chapter as well. The United States has encountered several countries which require Vesicular Stomatitis-freedom attestations on dairy product certificates as well as for exporting other products where VS is not a risk, and therefore, which should not have any health requirements associated with the disease. If not now, we strongly support adding a list of safe commodities to the VS Code Chapter during the next cycle of chapter reviews by the Terrestrial Animals Code Commission.

Article 8.15.6.

Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with VS

for domestic cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and horses

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

1. showed no clinical sign of VS on the day of shipment;
2. either
 - a) were kept, since birth or for the past 21 days, in an *establishment* where no *case* of VS was officially reported during that period; or
 - ~~3-b)~~ were kept in a *quarantine station* for the 30 days prior to shipment and were subjected to a diagnostic test for VS with negative results at least 21 days after the commencement of quarantine;
43. were protected from insect vectors during quarantine and transportation to the *place of shipment*.

Article 8.15.7.

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