

TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS
COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 2011 REPORT

USA Comments

CHAPTER 12.1.

INFECTION WITH AFRICAN HORSE
SICKNESS VIRUS

Article 12.1.1.

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Article 12.1.7.

Recommendations for importation from AHSV infected countries or zones

for equidae equids

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

1. showed no clinical sign of AHS on the day of shipment;
2. have not been vaccinated against AHS within the last 40 days;
3. were held ~~continuously during the quarantine period of at least 40 days, in isolation in a vector-proof protected establishment quarantine station and protected at all times from attacks by *Culicoides*; and~~
 - a) for a period of at least 28 days and a serological test according to the *Terrestrial Manual* to detect antibodies to the AHSV group, was carried out with a negative result on a blood sample collected at least 28 days after introduction into the vector-protected establishment quarantine station; or
 - b) for a period of at least 40 days and serological tests according to the *Terrestrial Manual* to detect antibodies against AHSV were carried out with no significant increase in antibody titre on blood samples collected on two occasions, with an interval of not less than 21 days, the first sample being collected at least 7 days after introduction into the vector-protected establishment quarantine station; or

- c) for a period of at least 14 days and an agent identification tests according to the *Terrestrial Manual* ~~were was~~ carried out with a negative results on a blood samples collected ~~on two occasions with an interval of not less than 14 days between collection, the first sample being collected at least 7 days~~ after introduction into the vector-protected establishment quarantine station; or

Rationale: The United States recommends adding the word “or” at the end of bullet point c). This will help ensure clarity that bullet points a) through d) are all options under paragraph 3 to be considered individually.

d) for a period of at least 40 days and were vaccinated, at least 40 days before shipment, in accordance with the *Terrestrial Manual* against all serotypes whose presence in the source population has been demonstrated through a surveillance programme in accordance with Articles 12.1.12 and 12.1.13, and were identified in the accompanying certification as having been vaccinated;

4. were protected from attacks by *Culicoides* at all times during transportation (including transportation to and at the *place of shipment*).

Article 12.1.8.

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