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Export Live Animals to Russian Federation

Last Modified:

Electronic Signature **ACCEPTED**; Original Ink Endorsement **REQUIRED**

For Accredited Veterinarians: Electronic signature **ACCEPTED**

For APHIS VMO: Original ink endorsement **REQUIRED**

USDA-accredited veterinarians can electronically issue health certificates and use VEHCS (Veterinary Export Health Certification System) to submit them to USDA for endorsement.

USDA must ink-sign and emboss the health certificate.

What This Means for You

Accredited Veterinarians: Use the links below to access or get help with VEHCS. Learn more about [how to issue export health certificates](#).

Animal Owners/Shippers: You can arrange to have your health certificate returned by mail (a prepaid, preaddressed return label must be provided during

certificate submission). The endorsed health certificate—ink-signed and embossed—must accompany the animal(s) during shipment or travel.

[VEHCS Help](#) | [VEHCS Guide](#) (7.58 MB) | [VEHCS Login](#)

Live Animal Export Country Requirements [View Requirements](#)

Summary of Requirements

NOTE: The Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (VPSS) of the Russian Federation imposed temporary restrictions on the transit of FMD susceptible animals through the Germany and Hungary to the Russian territory, due to foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreaks.

[Expand All](#)

Equine

Note: Effective August 27, 2014, there is a temporary restriction on animals from Colorado and Texas due to the ongoing outbreak of vesicular stomatitis. Russia has prohibited the U.S. export of horses or other single-hoofed ungulates, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and semen and embryos of these species. Also included in the restriction are wild, zoo, and circus animals susceptible to vesicular stomatitis.

Note: Effective September 5, 2012, Russia has banned U.S. export of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and semen and embryos from donors in Mora County, New Mexico.

- [Horses - Permanent - Health Certificate](#) (343.19 KB) - May 2008
- [Horses - Temporary - Health Certificate](#) (257.69 KB) - May 2008

Cattle

Note: Regarding vesicular stomatitis virus, the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) of the Russian Federation has placed restrictions on the export of U.S. origin horses or other single-hoofed ungulates, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and semen and embryos of these species, including wild, zoo, and circus animals, from the following states and counties to the Russian Federation:

- August 5, 2005 -Yellowstone County, Montana and Sablet County, Wyoming
- May 5, 2005 - Grant County, New Mexico
- August 31, 2012 - Mora County, New Mexico
- July 7, 2014 - San Patricia County and Nueces County, Texas
- August 27, 2014 - the entire states of **Colorado** and **Texas**

Note: USDA APHIS strongly recommends U.S. exporters test ruminants during the pre-export isolation for bluetongue virus using PCR test methods, regardless of the status of the premises of origin as referred to in Item 3.2.2. of the model health certificate.

- [Cattle - Questions and Answers for Export Health Certificate - Guidance Document](#) (17.77 KB) - August 2012
- [Cattle - Breeding - Health Certificate](#) (247.76 KB) - May 2008
- [Bovine - Embryos - Health Certificate](#) (280.14 KB) - May 2008
- [Bovine - Semen - Health Certificate](#) (227.99 KB) - February 2006

Sheep and Goats

Note: Regarding vesicular stomatitis virus, the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) of the Russian Federation has placed restrictions on the export of U.S. origin horses or other single-hoofed ungulates, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and semen and embryos of these species, including wild, zoo, and circus animals, from the following states and counties to the Russian Federation:

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- [Sheep and Goats - Breeding - Health Certificate](#) (210.24 KB) - February 2010

Swine

Note: Effective May 30, 2014, Russia has banned import of live pigs from the United States due to the detection of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED). (Confirmed: June 22, 2021)

Poultry and Birds

Effective July 24, 2024, **ALL U.S. POULTRY** exports and transits to and through Russia, are temporarily restricted.

Taking a Pet to Another Country?

[Visit Pet Travel](#)

Aquaculture/Aquatic Animals

APHIS Registered Aquaculture Export Facility [approval is required](#) for the export of aquatic animals caught in natural water bodies.

- [Aquatic Animals - Cultivation, Breeding, or Other - Health Certificate](#) (605.49 KB) - December 2015
- [Aquatic Animals - Cultivation, Breeding, or Other - Guidance Documents \(Chapter 17\)](#) (144.01 KB) - February 2019

Research/Laboratory Animals

- [Laboratory Animals - Health Certificate](#) (310.07 KB) - June 2019

NOTE: For the export of U.S. non-human primates for laboratory/research purposes to the Russian Federation, an additional APPENDIX is required and available upon request from VS Endorsement Offices.

Other Animals

Note: Regarding vesicular stomatitis virus, the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) of the Russian Federation has placed restrictions on the export of U.S. origin horses or other single-hoofed ungulates, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and semen and embryos of these species, including wild, zoo, and circus animals, from the following states and counties to the Russian Federation:

- August 5, 2005 -Yellowstone County, Montana and Sablet County, Wyoming
- May 5, 2005 - Grant County, New Mexico
- August 31, 2012 - Mora County, New Mexico
- July 7, 2014 - San Patricia County and Nueces County, Texas
- August 27, 2014 - the entire states of **Colorado** and **Texas**

Note: USDA APHIS strongly recommends U.S. exporters test ruminants during the pre-export isolation for bluetongue virus using PCR test methods, regardless of the status of the premises of origin as referred to in Item 3.2.2. of the model health certificate.

- [Mink - Health Certificate](#) (137.63 KB) - February 2019
- [Canine - Semen - Health Certificate](#) - June 2020
- [Earthworms - Health Certificate](#) - June 2020
- [Rabbit - Semen - Health Certificate](#) - June 2020
- [Reindeer - Health Certificate](#) - June 2020

Taking a Pet to Another Country?

[Visit Pet Travel](#)

If your species is not listed, the requirements for that species are not known. Exporters who want to ship livestock or germplasm whose requirements are not listed above should have the importer or buyer in the destination country apply for an import permit at the appropriate ministry. This import permit will most likely outline the specific requirements.

Need Help?

USDA-Accredited Veterinarians

Contact a USDA-accredited veterinarian for questions about your destination country's entry requirements for animals (including any needed vaccinations, tests, or treatments); issuance of health certificates; and status updates on certificate endorsement.

[Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian](#)

APHIS Live Animal Industry Team

APHIS Veterinary Services' Industry Team has commodity-specific expertise in export requirements for live animals. Use the contacts below for questions about endorsing an export health certificate or related topics.

[View Helpful Tips and Information](#)

[All Contacts](#)

Related Resources

- [Frequently Asked Questions About Live Animal Exports](#)
- [VEHCS Login](#)
- [National Veterinary Accreditation Program: Information for Veterinarians](#)
- [Role of the Accredited Veterinarian in International Animal Exports](#)

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Tips for Exporters and Accredited Veterinarians

Endorsement Services

- **No in-person or drop-off services.**
- For fastest processing, have your [accredited veterinarian](#) **submit certificates through [VEHCS](#).**
- Routine APHIS VEHCS processing services are staffed Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (CT), excluding Federal holidays. The time listed in VEHCS reflects GMT.
- Paper certificates are discouraged but may be mailed to one of our two paper endorsement offices (see addresses below).

Status Updates

Endorsement offices **cannot confirm delivery or provide status updates.** For updates:

- Contact your [accredited veterinarian](#) (they can check VEHCS status).
- Use your **mail tracking number.**

Important Tips

- Ensure accuracy and submit documents as early as possible within the allowed timeline of the destination country to avoid delays.
- Use **overnight or Saturday delivery** when mailing.

Mailing Addresses

USDA-APHIS
Attn: VETS
920 Main Campus Dr., Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606
USDA-APHIS
Attn: VETS
10365 Old Placerville Rd., Suite 210

Sacramento, CA 95827

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