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Export Live Animals to Saudi Arabia

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.

Summary of Requirements

[Expand All](#)

Equine

NOTE: U.S. horses must be accompanied by an original, printed APHIS-endorsed health certificate when shipped to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture (MEWA) will then verify the authenticity of the health certificate in the APHIS Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS) prior to issuing an import permit.

- [Horses - Permanent - Protocol](#) (108.31 KB) - July 2023
- [Horses - Permanent - Health Certificate](#) (231.9 KB) - July 2023
- [Horses - Temporary - Protocol](#) (132.9 KB) - January 2020
- [Horses - Temporary - Health Certificate](#) (234.31 KB) - January 2020
- [Equine - Semen - Health Certificate](#) (10.68 KB) - September 2009

Note: Effective November 7, 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has confirmed that in addition to virus isolation, either real-time PCR or conventional PCR test method is acceptable for the testing of equine semen for Equine Viral Arteritis. The test method used must be noted on the health certificate.

Cattle

- [Cattle - Breeding - Health Certificate](#) (195.58 KB) - June 2023

Note: Pre-export isolation of U.S. cattle destined to Saudi Arabia begins with the first test sample collection and continues through the time of embarkation.

Once testing has begun, animals must remain in isolation without introduction of new animals or change in environment until the time of embarkation.

Note: The Veterinary Health Certificate for Export of Breeding Cattle (not for immediate slaughter) from the United States of America to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is also available in the [Veterinary Export Health Certification System \(VEHCS\)](#) (195.58 KB)

- [Bovine - Embryos - Health Certificate](#) (163.78 KB) - March 2025
- [Bovine - Semen - Health Certificate](#) (171.53 KB) - March 2025

Sheep and Goats

- [Sheep - Health Certificate](#) (2.57 KB) - June 1987
- [Small Ruminant - Embryos - Health Certificate](#) May 2025
- [Small Ruminant - Semen - Health Certificate](#) May 2025

Poultry

Note: Effective April 22, 2022, Saudi Arabia will only allow U.S. origin day-old poultry and hatching eggs that meet the requirements of the health certificates below. The import of any other live poultry is restricted.

- [Day-old Poultry - Health Certificate](#) (155.62 KB) - September 2022
- [Hatching Eggs - Health Certificate](#) (142.93 KB) - September 2022

Birds (non-Poultry)

- [Falcons - Health Certificate](#) (173.33 KB) - July 2021

Note: U.S. origin falcons for export are required to have an import permit issued by the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture. That import

permit must accompany the consignment.

Taking a Pet to Another Country?

[Visit Pet Travel](#)

Aquaculture/Aquatic Animals

Note: Effective **July 1, 2019**, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has placed a temporary ban on *Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia) originating from the states of Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado, due to the infections of the Tilapia Lake Virus (TiLV).

Consignments of *Oreochromis niloticus* originating from all other States must be accompanied by an export health certificate stating the consignments are free of TiLV.

Other Animals

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?

[Download contacts](#)

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) and for issuance of health certificates.

[Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian](#)

USDA Endorsement Offices

Contact your nearest APHIS Veterinary Export Trade Services Endorsement Office for questions about endorsing an export health certificate for live animals.

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Loading...

[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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