

## **IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF BELIZE FOR HORSES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES**

The animals must be accompanied by U.S. Origin Health Certificate, issued by a veterinarian accredited by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of the consignor and the consignee and individual identification of the animals to be exported including color, sex, breed, age, marks, tattoo or microchip, Additional information shall include:

### **CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS**

1. At the farm of origin, the horses were isolated from other animals under the supervision of an accredited veterinarian for 30 days prior to export. During this period, there were no clinical cases of infectious or contagious disease affecting the species.
2. On the day of export, the horses were in good health, free of ticks and signs of infectious and contagious diseases, and had no fresh wounds or wounds in the process of healing.
3. At the farms of origin, there have been no quarantines or movement restrictions due to any OIE listed diseases affecting equines during 90 days prior to export.
4. The horses were tested with negative results, for contagious equine metritis, equine infectious anemia, equine piroplasmiasis (*Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi*), and equine viral arteritis, within 30 days prior to export.
5. The horses were vaccinated against equine encephalomyelitis (Venezuelan, Eastern and Western), equine influenza (A/equi 2), rabies, and West Nile virus, not less than 30 days and not more than a one year prior to export.
6. The horses were treated against endo and ectoparasites with approved products within 7 days prior to export.
7. The horses were transported, from the farm of origin to the port of embarkation, in vehicles that were cleaned and disinfected prior to loading with approved products.

## **TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

The animals must be tested with negative results as prescribed below within 30 days prior to export.

- (i) Equine infectious anemia (EIA): Negative agar-gel immunodiffusion test (AGID) or ELISA;
- (ii) Equine piroplasmiasis (*Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi*): Negative indirect immunofluorescent test or competitive ELISA;
- (iii) Equine viral arteritis (EVA); Negative virus neutralization (VN) test or ELISA. Geldings are excluded from testing.
- (iv) Contagious equine metritis (CEM): Culture and agent identification.

## **EMBARKATION STATEMENT**

At the port of embarkation, a Veterinary Services port veterinarian shall attach to the Origin Health Certificate the Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals (VS Form 17-37) showing:

1. The name and address of the consignor.
2. The name and address of the consignee.
3. The number, sex and types of animals to be exported.
4. A statement that the animals have been given a careful veterinary inspection at the port of embarkation and found free from evidence of communicable disease and exposure thereto.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

Importers must comply with all conditions described in the import permit issued by the Animal Health Department of the Belize Agricultural Health Authority.