

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR BIRDS OF THE PARROT FAMILY AND SONG BIRDS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

1 Personal pet birds - A person may import in his or her personal possession, without permit, not more than two birds of the parrot family or two song birds, with declaration to Canadian Customs that the birds have been in his or her personal possession and not in contact with other birds during the 90 days prior to entry into Canada. Not more than one member of a family (husband, wife, or children) may import birds under these requirements during any 90-day period. The Canadian Declaration Form (AGR 1553) is available from Canadian Customs at the port of entry.

NOTE: For import purposes, the term pet bird means a personally owned and cared for bird, and applies only to species commonly known as caged birds such as psittacines (birds in the parrot family), song birds, toucans, canaries, finches, cardinals, etc. **The term does not apply to pigeons, doves, species of wild or domesticated fowl, or game birds.**

2 Commercial shipments of birds: All commercial shipments of birds must be accompanied by a U.S. origin health certificate, VS Form 17-6 "Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export." The certificate must be signed or endorsed by a federal veterinarian. The certificate must state that the veterinarian has inspected the birds within 30 days prior to the date of export to Canada and found them free from any communicable disease and that, to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, the birds are free from and have not been exposed to avian pneumoencephalitis (Newcastle disease), pullorum disease, fowl plague, fowl typhoid, and psittacosis/ornithosis. (Checking statement B under item 12 on the VS Form 17-6 will meet this requirement) The exported must ensure that the shipment is made in new containers or containers which have been properly cleaned and disinfected prior to export.

A. Psittacine (parrot-type) birds:

The following is applicable to parrots, parakeets, cockatoos and cockatiels, budgerigars, lovebirds and other parrot-family birds. These require a health certificate, import permit, and quarantine in Canada. In addition to the VS Form 17-6 certification described above, the following additional statements must be made:

1. The birds have not been vaccinated against avian pneumoencephalitis (Newcastle disease) or laryngotracheitis prior to entry into Canada,
2. The individual wing or legband number of the birds or the official seal number of the shipping container appears on the certificate, and
3. The birds have been continually resident in the United States for the 60-day period preceding the date of embarkation (this shall not include any period of quarantine) **OR** The birds were hatched in and have never been outside the United States.

B) Songbirds (birds other than psittacine-type birds or poultry):

The following is applicable to Mynah birds and songbirds such as toucans, robins, finches and canaries, doves, and DOES NOT INCLUDE pigeons, wild or domesticated waterfowl or poultry. In addition to the VS Form 17-6 certification described above, the following additional statements must be made:

-The birds have been continually resident in the United States for the 60-day period preceding the date of embarkation (this shall not include any quarantine period) **OR** The birds were hatched in and have never been outside the United States.

NOTE: The only species of Mynah bird which is allowed entry into Canada is the *Gracula religiosa* (the Hill Mynah).

C) Ratites (members of the ostrich family) and their hatching eggs:

The following is applicable to ostriches, emus, kiwis, cassowaries, tinamous and rheas. The VS Form 17-6 certificate described above is required. The birds must be fully described and have some form of identification such as an individual neck or legband. Ostriches must also be identified with an electronic microchip, and the exporter must ensure that the appropriate reading device accompanies the birds.