

REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR SMALL RUMINANTS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR BREEDING, DOMESTIC OR CAPTIVE PURPOSES

NOTE: These requirements are to be used for small ruminants defined as members of the Family: *Bovidae*, Subfamily: *Caprinidae*, and Genus: *Ovis and Capra*. In general, the term “small ruminants” applies to sheep, goats, and their exotic relatives of the genus ovis and capra.

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized 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 complete identification. Additional information shall include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The small ruminant and its flock or herd of origin was inspected by a veterinarian within 30 days preceding the date of importation and were found to be free from communicable disease.
2. The animal was, to the best of the knowledge and belief of a veterinarian, not exposed to any communicable disease within 60 days preceding the date of the inspection.
3. The feeding to small ruminants of meat and bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin has been banned since 1997 and the prohibition is strictly enforced.
4. The small ruminant is identified by a permanent identification system enabling it to be traced back to its flock or herd of origin.
5. The small ruminant has in its right ear or, if there is insufficient ear, in the inner right flank or tail web, a legible, permanent tattoo that shows the letters USA, at least one centimeter in height.
6. The animals on this certificate are covered by CFIA Import Permit #: _____.
7. Additional Certification for Females

Females must be certified as originating from:

- a) A “Negligible Risk Premises”:
Defined as a premises which has maintained the flock or herd of origin and has complied with the following conditions for at least 5 years

1. The small ruminants have been permanently identified and records maintained, to enable trace back to their premises of birth.
2. Records of movements of small ruminants in and out of the premises are documented and maintained.
3. Introductions of females and embryos are allowed only from premises of an equal or higher stage in the process of accreditation / recognition.
4. A veterinarian authorized by the Veterinary Administration inspects the small ruminants on the premises and audits the records at least once a year.
5. The premises is not currently subject to any Scrapie control or eradication action and does not contain high risk animals as defined by the Scrapie program.
6. Small ruminants on the premises have no direct contact with female small ruminants from premises of a lower status.
7. All small ruminants over 18 months of age on the premises that have died or been killed for reasons other than routine slaughter have had samples collected and sent to a laboratory for Scrapie examination and for all other known Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) strains. Sampling must include all “fallen” stock and animals sent for emergency slaughter.

OR

- b. A Premises Enrolled in a Scrapie Certification Program
Defined as a premises that has maintained a flock or herd which is complying with the following conditions, but for less than 5 years. The exporting flock or herd must have been enrolled in a Scrapie certification program for at least twelve (12) months and had at least one (1) annual inventory. Number of years of compliance to be stated.
 1. All small ruminants have been permanently identified and records maintained, to enable trace back to their premises of birth.
 2. Records of movements of small ruminants in and out of the premises are documented and maintained.
 3. Introductions of females and embryos are allowed only from premises of an equal or higher stage in the process of accreditation / recognition.
 4. A veterinarian authorized by the Veterinary Administration inspects the small

ruminants on the premises and audits the records at least once a year.

5. The premises is not currently subject to any Scrapie control or eradication action and does not contain high risk animals as defined by the Scrapie program.
6. Small ruminants on the premises have no direct contact with female small ruminants from premises of a lower status.
7. All small ruminants over 18 months of age on the premises that have died or been killed for reasons other than routine slaughter have had samples collected and sent to a laboratory for Scrapie examination and for all other known Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) strains. Sampling must include all “fallen” stock and animals sent for emergency slaughter.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

1. Sheep (Ovis)
No test requirements.
2. Goats (Capra)
 - a. Brucellosis (B. Abortus)

The brucellosis test for the import of goats to Canada is the standard tube test (STT), or standard plate test (SPT) with negative reading at a 1:50 dilution and conducted within 30 days of importation. The results of the brucellosis test must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

- b. Tuberculosis
The tuberculosis test is the standard caudal fold injection of tuberculin with a reading of results at 72 hours as “No Reaction” and conducted within 60 days of importation. The results of the tuberculin test must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

3. Bluetongue - Sheep and Goats (State of Florida only)

1. Animals imported from the state of Florida require a negative test for bluetongue using the c-ELISA test methodology within thirty (30) days prior to import.

OR

2. In the case of a positive result, a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test must be performed with negative results for virus within 30 days of import.

It is suggested that animals being sampled have both a serum sample and blood sample drawn at the same time and be sent to the lab with the request that, if the c-ELISA test is positive, then a PCR test.

An animal that was born after its mother was tested is not required to meet the test Requirements of this document: if the animal is imported into Canada at the same time as its mother. An animal that was born after its mother was tested, unless it was born en route to Canada, must be identified with permanent identification and recorded on the health certificate of its mother.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. Permanent Identification System is defined as:

- a. An official USDA ear tag.

OR

- b. A tamper-resistant ear tag approved by USDA - Animal Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) for use in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program.

OR

- c. A unique alpha numeric ear tattoo; in the case of goats with insufficient ear space the tattoo may appear in the flank or tail web.

OR

- d. Electronic identification provided that a reader satisfactory to determine the elements accompanies the animal into Canada.

AND

For small ruminants which are required by Section 189 of the Health of Animals Regulations to have a tag applied under the Canada national livestock identification program for imported animals, the importer must report the tag information to the administrator of the program as required and within the time period specified, and as well, to the CFIA location where the importation of the animal occurred if the tag is not already present in the animal at the time of import.

- 2 Information on the status of the exporting premises in the United States and the importing premises in Canada must be submitted when applying for an Import Permit.

- 3 Female animals imported for temporary entry (stay of less than 30 days) that cannot meet the import requirements for breeding animals may be imported if they are certified by ultrasound examination not be pregnant at the time of entry to Canada.
* When applying for an Import Permit the applicant must submit to the CFIA proof of authorization from the USDA to re-enter the United States.
- 4 An exemption from these requirements for non-domestic small ruminants will be considered on a case-by-case basis considering the intended use for animals imported is for medical use, scientific research or zoological collections.