

ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL RACEHORSES TO BE EXPORTED TO JAPAN FROM LISTED COUNTRIES for the United States of America

The animal health requirements shall be applied for international racehorses that are exported to Japan as follows:

(Definitions)

“Listed Countries”

means the countries listed in annex 1, where international racehorses stay.

“Test Countries”

means the countries where test for the disease listed in annex 2 must be conducted.

“Exported racehorse”

means a racehorse (including a training partner horse) exported to Japan from Listed Countries only for the purpose of participating in international horserace, not staying in Japan more than 60 days (duration from the day of release from the import animal quarantine to the previous day of the export quarantine), and leaving Japan immediately after racing.

“Returning racehorse”

means a racehorse which returns to Japan after participating in international race and staying in Listed Countries for 60 days or less.

“International racehorse”

means exported racehorse and returning racehorse.

1. During 60 days (*1) immediately before shipment to Japan, international racehorse meets following requirements:

- (1) The horse has been resident only in the Listed Countries.
- (2) Listed Countries have been free from African horse sickness and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis for at least 2 years.
- (3) The horse has been stabled at the premises under veterinary supervision in which there has been free from the listed diseases (*2) for at least 60 days immediately before shipment to Japan, and the horse has not shown clinical sign of the listed diseases.
- (4) The horse has not been resident in horse breeding premises, and has not been used for natural mate and artificial insemination.

*1) For returning racehorses, a period between the day of export from Japan and the day of import into Japan. The same applies in this document.

*2) Anthrax, Epizootic lymphangitis, Equine infectious anemia, Equine influenza, Equine encephalitis(Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis, Japanese encephalitis), Equine morbillivirus pneumonia (Hendra virus infection), Equine

paratyphoid, Equine piroplasmiasis, Equine rhinopneumonitis, Equine trypanosomiasis, Equine viral arteritis, Glanders, Horse pox, Nipah virus infection, Rabies and Vesicular stomatitis

2. The international racehorse should meet one of the following requirements.

(1) The international racehorse must be tested in the Listed Countries for the following diseases with negative results within 30 days immediately before shipment to Japan. In case that the horse has not stayed in Test Countries for each disease within 60 days (*1) prior to export to Japan, the tests could be omitted.

- i) Equine infectious anemia : Agar-gel immunodiffusion test
- ii) Equine piroplasmiasis : Microscopic examination for blood smear and either
Indirect fluorescent antibody test, or
Competitive ELISA
- iii) Equine viral arteritis : Serum neutralization test

or

(2) The international racehorse must be tested in the Listed Countries for the following diseases with negative results within 60 days immediately before shipment to Japan. After the tests the horse does not have any contact with horses other than the same health status (having the same tests, with negative results, within 60 days immediately before export to Japan), except for at the time of training and racings which are supervised by animal health authority of the country. In case that the horse has not stayed in Test Countries for each disease within 60 days (*1) before export to Japan, the tests could be omitted.

- i) Equine infectious anemia : Agar-gel immunodiffusion test
- ii) Equine piroplasmiasis : Microscopic examination for blood smear and either
Indirect fluorescent antibody test, or
Competitive ELISA
- iii) Equine viral arteritis : Serum neutralization test

or

(3) In case of the returning racehorse which has stayed in the Listed Countries for 14 days or less under the following conditions, the tests can be replaced with the certification of these conditions:

- During the stay in the Listed Countries the returning racehorse has been stabled in the insect-vector-protected facilities approved by animal health authority of the country and has been treated with an insect repellent on every time the racehorse is out from the facility;
- During the stay in the Listed Countries the returning racehorse has been no contact

with any horses other than the same health status except for during the training and racing under official supervision; and

- The returning racehorse showed no signs of listed diseases (*2) during the stay and at the export as the result of regular inspections by the government veterinary officer.

3. In case the international racehorse has stayed in Test Countries for following diseases within 60 days (*1) before export to Japan, the horse must be tested for the diseases with negative results within 30 days prior to shipment to Japan or other Listed Countries which are not Test Countries for each disease.

- i) Equine trypanosomiasis : Microscopic examination for blood smear and either ELISA or Complement fixation test
- ii) Glanders : Mallein test or Complement fixation test
- iii) Nipah virus infection : ELISA or Serum neutralization test

4. In case the international racehorse has stayed in Test Countries for Vesicular stomatitis within 60 days (*1) before export to Japan, the horse must be tested for Vesicular stomatitis by serum neutralization test with negative results within 14 days immediately prior to shipment to Japan or other Listed Countries other than Test Countries for Vesicular stomatitis.

5. The international racehorse must be vaccinated against Equine influenza twice at an interval of 4 to 6 weeks (or once in the case of booster) within 6 months immediately prior to shipment to Japan. In case the live vaccine has been used, the horse should not be vaccinated within 2 weeks immediately before shipment to Japan.

And

during 5 days prior to the shipment to Japan, a nasopharyngeal swab must be taken from exported racehorse and tested as negative for equine influenza using a RT-PCR or antigen ELISA.

6. The international racehorse has stabled in premises where no cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection was confirmed in 50 kilometers radius around the premises for past 60 days prior to shipment to Japan for at least 14 days, or whole period if staying less than 14 days, immediately before shipment to Japan.

Or

the international racehorses were vaccinated against WNV using a vaccine approved by the government of the Listed Countries twice at an interval of 3 to 6 weeks (or once in case of a booster) during 1 year before shipment to Japan.

7. During the transportation of international racehorse from Listed Countries to Japan and transportation between Listed countries within 60 days (*1) before shipment to Japan, all containers, land vehicles and loading places of a ship or an aircraft being used are fully cleaned and disinfected previously with disinfectants approved by the government authorities of Listed Countries.

8. During the transportation of international racehorse from Listed Countries to Japan and transportation between Listed countries within 60 days (*1) before shipment to Japan, the international racehorses must not be loaded together with any equine or cloven-hoofed animal, except the horses participating in the international horserace (the horses in the same health conditions).
9. During the transportation of international racehorse from Listed Countries to Japan and transportation between Listed countries within 60 days (*1) before shipment to Japan, no additional feed and/or litter shall be provided at any anchorage sites during the transportation of the international racehorses.
10. The government authorities of the exporting country is responsible for providing certificate detailed below. In case the international racehorse has stayed in several Listed Countries within 60 days (*1) prior to export to Japan, all certificates or certificated copies issued by each Listed Country must be attached to the exporting country's certificate.
 - (1) Items 1, 6, 7, 8 and 9.
 - (2) Dates, methods and results of examination for each disease listed in item 2, 3, 4 and 5. In case Mallein test is carried out, the method (palpebral /intra-dermal) or the site of intra-dermal inoculation is also required.
 - (3) Date of vaccination and kind of vaccine for Equine influenza.
 - (4) In case the international racehorse has been vaccinated against disease other than Equine influenza, date of vaccination and kind of the vaccine.
 - (5) Name and address of the premises (or racing stable) where the international racehorse is usually stabled in home country.
 - (6) Countries, period of staying (including import date and export date) in each country where the international racehorse has stayed within 60 days (*1) immediately before shipment to Japan.
 - (7) Name and address of all premises where the international racehorse has stayed in 60 days (*1) immediately before shipment to Japan.
 - (8) Microchip number, tattoo number or other descriptions for identification of the horse.
11. If any infectious disease is detected during the quarantine in Japan, the international racehorse might be returned or slaughtered by animal health authority of Japan.
12. If Equine piroplasmiasis, Equine infectious anemia, Equine trypanosomiasis, Equine viral arteritis, Glanders, Nipah virus infection or Vesicular stomatitis have occurred in the Listed Countries, and the country is not a Test Country for the disease, the animal health authority of the country has to notify the outbreak to Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

(ANNEX 1)

“Listed Country”

Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, the United States of America

(ANNEX 2)

“Test Country”

Equine piroplasmosis: Canada , France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, the United States of America

Equine infectious anemia: Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, the United States of America

Equine trypanosomiasis: Italy, United Arab Emirates

Equine viral arteritis: Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, the United States of America

Glanders: (None)

Nipah virus infection: Singapore

Vesicular stomatitis: the United States of America