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VETERINARY SERVICES DIVISION
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IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR BREEDING CATTLE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. SCOPE

- 1.1. Pursuant to the Animal (Disease and Importation) Law, this document is the import health standard for the importation into Jamaica of live cattle from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the purpose of breeding purposes.
- 1.2. Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of live bovine imported into Jamaica from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard and as stated in the current version of Import Permit for this purpose.
- 1.3. This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in Jamaica's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

2. PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 2.1. Importation of live cattle into Jamaica from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is granted at the issuance of an Import Permit by the Chief Veterinary Officer, Veterinary Services Division, Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (Jamaica) for that specified in the permit.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to domesticated animals, which are members of the species *Species: Bos taurus and Bos indicus*.
- 3.2. All animals must have permanent identification that is recognised by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), prior to the pre-export quarantine period.
- 3.3. The cattle must not be under movement, slaughter or destruction restrictions.
- 3.4. Animals may only be imported directly from the United States of America.



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4. DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT

The consignment shall be accompanied by:

- 4.1. A *VETERINARY IMPORT PERMIT* issued by the Chief Veterinary Officer, Veterinary Services Division, Jamaica.
- 4.2. An appropriately completed approved *OFFICIAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE*, which meets the conditions of the import permit as is stated in ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION below.
- 4.3. *All RELEVANT RECORDS*, including details of vaccinations, tests and treatments performed during the lifetime of each animal, as well as the origin and date of birth, if known.
- 4.4. Documentation shall be in English.
- 4.5. It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.

5. BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

- 5.1. Upon arrival in Jamaica the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be examined by an Inspector under the law at the port of arrival. The Inspector will also ascertain the identity of each animal in the consignment; a physical examination shall be conducted.
- 5.2. If there are any clinical signs suggestive of an exotic disease, entry will be prohibited.
- 5.3. Biosecurity clearance for post-entry quarantine may be granted providing the documentation meets all requirements noted below and observation of the animals indicate apparent non adverse health conditions and the consignment meets the conditions of eligibility.

6. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

6.1. COUNTRY STATUS

- The United States of America is officially free of Akabane, Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, Foot and Mouth Disease, Rinderpest, Rift Valley Fever, Lumpy Skin Disease, Theileriosis, Vesicular Stomatitis, Heart Water, Peste des Petits Ruminants and has a Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy negligible risk status.
- The ban on the feeding of meat and bone meal or greaves to ruminants has been effectively enforced in the whole country for at least the past (7) years.



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6.2. HERD OF ORIGIN

6.2.1. The cattle and the herds from which they originate must be from premises which fulfil the following requirements:

- At the time of consignment, not be the subject of any animal health restrictions applicable to cattle;
- Be located in an area, which for animal health reasons is not subject to restrictive measures in accordance with the legislation of the exporting country as a result of the outbreak of a disease to which ruminants are susceptible.

6.2.2. The cattle must originate from premises, in which there have been no cases of the stated diseases for the stated period prior to export:

- Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus* or *Brucella ovis*)- 12 months
- Bovine Genital Campylobacteriosis – five (5) years
- Bovine tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*) - three (3) years
- Enzootic Bovine Leukosis– two (2) years-
- Rabies, Bluetongue, Vibriosis, Vesicular stomatitis, Maedi Visna, and Q-Fever - one (1) year
- Anthrax, Leptospirosis, Contagious Agalactia - six (6) months

6.2.3. The animal(s) originated from herds that did not present any clinical signs of **para-tuberculosis** (Johne's disease) for the past two (2) years.



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6.3. Animal Health Status

- 6.3.1. The animals for export have resided in the United States of America for at least sixty (60) days.
- 6.3.2. The animals have not been vaccinated for Brucellosis.
- 6.3.3. Each animal underwent pre-export isolation in premises approved by a veterinarian accredited by the United States Department of Agriculture, for at least thirty (30) days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export. Cattle in isolation should show no clinical signs of an infectious disease and should not have contact with ruminants of lesser health status.
- 6.3.4. The animals were tested for the following diseases based on OIE requirements, within forty-five (45) days prior to export with negative results :
- **Brucellosis** (*B. melitensis*, *B. abortus*): BBAT, CFT, I-ELISA or FPA.
 - **Bovine tuberculosis** (*Mycobacterium bovis*) - intradermal tuberculin test.
 - **Bluetongue**: either RT-PCR or virus isolation.
 - **Paratuberculosis** (Johne's disease): Delayed-type Hypersensitivity test (DTH) or ELISA.

Leptospirosis: treatment with for leptospirosis, using oxytetracycline at a dose of 22mg/kg on two occasions 14 days apart and dates of treatments stated.

- **Bovine Virus Diarrhoea**: Viral isolation or PCR test

OR

The animals were vaccinated with a U.S. approved vaccine between 15 days and no more than 6 months prior to export.

Bovine genital campylobacteriosis:

The animal is a virgin heifer, OR

One culture of vaginal washings or, one culture of prepucial washings, or one culture of semen sample.

Bovine anaplasmosis :PCR

AND



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treated twice with an effective drug such as oxytetracycline at a dose of 22 mg/kg; Treatments must be at least 7 days apart.

AND

treated with an acaricide and, if necessary, a repellent against biting insects prior to shipment and were visibly free of ticks.

- **Enzootic bovine leukosis (EBL):** PCR, AGID or ELISA;
all cattle over 24 months of age have been subject to a diagnostic test for EBL on a blood sample on two occasions with negative results during the preceding 12 months, at an interval of at least 4 months;
OR
cattle for export were tested on two (2) occasions while segregated from the herd in an isolation unit approved by the USDA accredited veterinarian at an interval of at least 30 days. (the 2nd test is completed in isolation).
- **Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR):** come from an IBR/IPV free herd;
OR
The animals were vaccinated with a killed vaccine between 15 days and no more than 6 months prior to export, OR
- or were tested via PCR during the isolation period, OR
Were tested using ELISA or VN on two (2) occasions with negative results, at an interval of not less than 21 days during the pre-isolation quarantine period.
- **Trichomonosis:** for animals, which have been mated, direct microscopic examination
- AND
- culture of vaginal mucus or preputial specimens , OR test of sample of semen sample with conventional PCR or real-time PCR

7. OTHER INFORMATION

- 7.1. At least three (3) weeks' notice of arrival of the animals, with a further seventy-two (72) hours confirmation must be given to the Director VSD, Jamaica. Tel: (876) 977-2489/92; Fax (876) 977-0885; email: vsd@micaf.gov.jm
- 7.2. On arrival at the designated port in Jamaica, an Inspector under the law shall examine the consignment and the accompanying documents, prior to dispatch to the quarantine facility.