

## **IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF JAMAICA FOR SHEEP FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The animals must be accompanied by an Import Permit issued by the Director of Veterinary Services Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, along with an U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate must carry the name and address of the consignor and consignee and complete identification of all the animals for export. The certificate must include the following certification statements, as well as fulfillment of the indicated tests and vaccinations:

### **1. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

#### **1.1. COUNTRY STATUS**

- The USA is free of Akabane Disease, Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (*Mycoplasma mycoides*), East Coast Fever, Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Goat Pox, Heart Water, Louping Ill, Nairobi Disease, Peste Des Petits Ruminants, Rift Valley Fever, Sheep Pox, and Trypanosomiasis (Nagana).
- 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.

#### **1.2. FLOCK OF ORIGIN**

- 1.2.1. The sheep and the flocks 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 sheep;
  - 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.
- 1.2.2. The sheep must originate from premises, in which there have been no clinical signs, diagnosis or epidemiological evidence of the stated diseases for the stated period prior to export:
  - Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus* or *Brucella ovis*) and Scrapie - five (5) years
  - Bovine Tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*) - three (3) years

- Rabies, Paratuberculosis (Johne's disease), Vibriosis, Vesicular Stomatitis, Maedi Visna, and Q-Fever - one (1) year
- Anthrax, Leptospirosis, Contagious Agalactia, - six (6) months

1.2.3. The sheep must originate from premises that have been enrolled in the Export Monitored or Complete Monitored categories of the Scrapie Flock Certification Program for at least twenty-four (24) months prior to the date of export. The flock has not been designated scrapie infected or source flock and is not currently designated a scrapie exposed flock. The animals for export are not the progeny of parents infected with scrapie and they did not show any clinical signs of scrapie on the date of inspection.

1.2.4. For sheep in the Complete Monitored category of the Scrapie Flock Certification Program the following certification statement is required:

“From the flock inventory conducted on \_\_\_\_\_ (date), I certify that all animals over eighteen (18) months of age which died (excluding routine slaughter) in the flock in the last twenty-four (24) months were tested negative for abnormal PRP”

1.2.5. The sheep should be genetically resistant to or rarely susceptible to scrapie namely AA RR or AA QR, where amino acids alanine (A) is at codon 136 and glutamine (Q) and arginine (R) at codon 171 (histamine (H) or lysine (K) at 171 is treated as a Q).

### **1.3.INDIVIDUAL ANIMALS**

1.3.1. The sheep must have been resident in the USA and free from all quarantine restrictions since birth or for at least the twelve (12) month period immediately prior to their entry into isolation prior export to Jamaica.

1.3.2. All animals must have permanent identification:

- The sheep must have in its right ear – or, if there is insufficient ear, in its inner right flank or tail web – a legible permanent tattoo that shows the letters USA, at least one centimeter in height.

- 1.3.3. The sheep must not be vaccinated against the diseases listed in Section 1.1.
- 1.3.4. Each sheep must undergo pre-export quarantine in premises approved by the USDA, for at least (21) days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export. The pre-export premises must be constructed in such a manner so as to prevent sheep in quarantine from having nose to nose contact with ruminants not in quarantine. Throughout the pre-export quarantine the sheep must be held in pens with clean, dry flooring.
- 1.3.5. Within twenty-one (21) days prior of export, the sheep should be kept in isolation with animals of similar health status and protected from insect vectors with no clinical signs of the abovementioned diseases.
- 1.3.6. Within seven (7) days prior to export, the animals were examined for external parasites and treated for ectoparasites using products registered in the United States of America for that purpose and according to the product's specifications. (The product, concentration, dose and date of treatment must be recorded on the health certificate).
- 1.3.7. Each sheep was treated with a broad spectrum anthelmintic during the first forty-eight (48) hours of pre- export quarantine; gave a zero parasite egg count to a faecal flotation concentration test carried out at least seven (7) days after the anthelmintic treatment as stated above; each sheep was treated with an anthelmintic effective against *Fasicola hepatica*, during the pre-export quarantine.
- 1.3.8. Within thirty (30) days prior of export, the sheep should be subjected to the following tests with negative results (date of test indicated):
  - Tuberculosis- intradermal Tuberculin test
  - Bluetongue – c-ELISA,(positive c-ELISA must be negative by PCR)
  - Brucellosis (*Brucella melintensis*): BBAT or c-ELISA or FPA
  - Leptospirosis –

EITHER: ELISA OR

Treated with long acting oxytetracycline at a dose of 20 mg/kg bodyweight to be given within seventy-two (72) hours of export.

1.3.9. All diagnostic tests must be conducted at a laboratory approved by the veterinary authority of the United States to conduct export testing, and copy of the laboratory result sheets attached.

1.3.10. Animals are to be vaccinated against the following, not less than fourteen (14) days before export.

- Haemorrhagic Septicemia; *Clostridium septicum* and *Clostridium chauvoei*

## 2. OTHER INFORMATION

2.1. The importer/exporter must ensure that the sheep are born from descendants, which were free from hereditary diseases as follows:

The sheep must not be from related animals, which have shown genetic defects including entropion, cleft palate, parrot mouth, undershot jaw, cryptorchidism, hernias, abdominal impaction, spider lambs, and prolapses (vaginal, rectal).

2.2. The actual date of embarkation and the Vessel or Airline/Flight number must be communicated to the Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Jamaica (Telephone (876) 977-2489/92, fax (876) 977-0885, Email: [vsd@moa.gov.jm](mailto:vsd@moa.gov.jm)) at the earliest opportunity and at least two (2) working days prior to shipping.

2.3. The sheep must be transported in accordance with the recommendations of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) live animal regulations for the transport of live animals as appropriate.

2.4. The sheep must be transported directly without contact with any ruminants not of equivalent certified health status, from the port of departure in the exporting country to the port of entry in Jamaica.