

**Animal health requirements for horses to be exported to Japan from the United States of America**

The animal health requirements for a horses to be exported to Japan from the United States (hereinafter referred to as "the exported horses") must be applied as follows :

1. The United States is free from African horse sickness, horse pox, glanders, epizootic lymphangitis and equine trypanosomiasis (including dourine and surra).
2. There have been no cases of vesicular stomatitis, equine encephalomyelitis (of all types including Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis), equine infectious anemia, equine influenza, equine piroplasmosis, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine viral arteritis, equine coital exanthema, contagious equine metritis, salmonellosis (*S. abortus equi*) and strangles on stabling premises for at least 6 months, in case of Potomac horse fever for at least 1 year, before a commencement of the examination stated in item 6 below.
3. The exported horses have been stabled on the premises stated in item 2 above for at least 60 days immediately before the commencement of embarkation-quarantine in item 4 below.
4. The exported horses are isolated in the embarkation-quarantine station authorized by the government authorities of the United States as a secured and guaranteed place from an animal health point of view, for at least 7 days immediately before shipment to Japan. After the entry into the embarkation-quarantine station, the exported horses have not been in contact with other animals which are not destined for the export to Japan. However, in case that the exported horses are stallion that were vaccinated against Equine viral arteritis, the pre-embarkation quarantine is carried out in accordance with the procedures specified in ANNEX.
5. The exported horses result in no signs of any infectious diseases through the careful clinical inspections conducted by the government veterinarians of the United States during the period of the embarkation-quarantine stated in item 4 above.
6. The exported horses are examined by the following tests with negative results within the period of 30 days immediately before shipment to Japan.

- (1) Equine infectious anemia :Agar gel immunodiffusion test
  - (2) Equine viral arteritis : As per ANNEX
  - (3) Salmonellosis (*S.abortus-equi*) : Tube agglutination test for *S. abortus equi* (negative at a dilution of 1:320)
  - (4) Equine Piroplasmosis : Microscopic examination of blood smears and Competitive ELISA or indirect fluorescent antibody test
  - (5) Vesicular stomatitis : CF test or Serum neutralization test
  - (6) Contagious equine metritis : Bacterial culture or PCR assay utilizing a swab sample from genital organs. (Excluding gelding and horses aged less than 24 months which have never been used for mating)
7. The exported horses are vaccinated against Equine influenza twice at 4 to 6 week interval (or once for booster) within 1 year before the embarkation-quarantine.
8. Within 50 kilometers from the premises stabling the exported horses during 14 days immediately prior to shipment to Japan, no cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection were confirmed for 60 days immediately prior to shipment to Japan.
- or
- the exported horses are vaccinated against WNV using vaccine approved by the government of the United States twice at an interval of 3 to 6 weeks (or once in case of booster) during 1 year before shipment to Japan.
9. All containers, vehicles and loading places of a ship or aircraft to be used for transportation of the exported horses are cleaned up in advance of loading and thoroughly disinfected under the supervision of the government authorities of the United States with chemicals approved by the said authorities.
10. The exported horses are kept isolated from any other animals during the transportation period in the United States and no other animals are permitted the mixed-loading on board the ship or aircraft used for the transportation of the exported horses to Japan.
11. Feed and litter to be used during the transportation period of the exported horses to Japan are provided from the same source used for the embarkation-quarantine.
12. No additional feed and litter are provided at any port of call throughout the

transportation of the exported horse to Japan.

13. The government authorities of the United States are responsible for issuing the health certificate for the exported horse, stating in English each of the following items in detail.

(1) Each requirement of items 1 to 5 and 8 to 12 stated above.

(2) Dates, methods and results of the inspections for each disease listed in item 6.

In case that the exporting horse is a stallion that was vaccinated against Equine viral arteritis, the said horse satisfies all the conditions in item 2 of ANNEX. Date of blood sampling immediately prior to the vaccination, kind of vaccine, each date of blood samplings on the premises (1 time) and at pre-embarkation quarantine facilities (2 time), each date and result of serum neutralization tests for all the collected blood samples, each date and result of blood sampling from two test mares to be subject to covering tests immediately prior to entering pre-embarkation quarantine of two test mares, and each date of blood samplings (2 times) after the last covering.

(3) Date of vaccination and kind of vaccine ( including a name of the strain ) for Equine influenza.

(4) Kind of vaccines, dates of vaccination and vaccine producer's name, in case that vaccines other than Equine influenza vaccine were applied to the exported horse in the 6 months prior to export.

(5) Name and address of the stabling premises of the exported horse.

(6) Embarkation-quarantine period with starting and ending dates.

(7) Name and address of the embarkation-quarantine station.

(8) Tattoo number, other features for identification of the export horse.

14. In case that any infectious disease is detected during the quarantine period in Japan, the said horse that these animal health requirements can be returned or slaughtered by the animal health authorities in Japan.

ANNEX

Tests and other requirements of the exported horses for Equine viral arteritis

1. Non-vaccinated horses

The serum neutralization test in the presence of complement (hereinafter referred to as "the serum neutralization test") is negative at a serum dilution 1:4.

2. A vaccinated stallion satisfies all of the following requirements.

- (1) The government authorities of an exporting country confirm that a blood sample is taken from a vaccinated stallion immediately prior to the vaccination and that the serum is subjected to the serum neutralization test with a negative result at a serum dilution 1:4.
- (2) Blood samples are taken from the vaccinated stallion for three times, one time on the stabling premises and two times at the embarkation-quarantine station, and these three samples are subject to the serum neutralization test at the same time with a result of either no significant rise (including a four-fold rise) of these titers or declining titers. In this case, an interval of about two weeks for taking blood samples is placed, and the third blood sample is taken within 10 days prior to the shipment.
- (3) In case titers are found maintained in the vaccinated stallion as the result of the serum neutralization test in 2-(2), the said stallion is subjected to covering test or virus isolation from semen.

(a) Covering test

Two test mares to be used for the covering test satisfy the requirements for the horse to be exported to Japan and are isolated at the same embarkation- quarantine station together with the vaccinated stallion for 30 days prior to the shipment of the vaccinated stallion to Japan, with negative results of the following tests.

- ① Blood samples are taken from the two test mares immediately prior to entering the embarkation-quarantine station, and are subjected to the serum neutralization test with negative results at serum dilution 1:4.
- ② During the 30 days embarkation-quarantine period, each of the two test mares is covered by the vaccinated stallion twice a day for two

days, and on the 14th day and the 28th day respectively after the last covering, the blood samples are taken from each of the two test mares and are subjected to the serum neutralization test with a negative results at serum dilution 1:4.

- ③ The two test mares have been found to be free of signs or symptoms of equine viral arteritis during the 30 days embarkation-quarantine period.

(b) Virus isolation from semen

The vaccinated stallion is isolated at the embarkation-quarantine station for 30 days prior to the shipment to Japan and subjected to the virus isolation test from semen during the said embarkation-quarantine period as follows.

- ① Disinfectants are not used in cleaning of the collecting instruments and the external genitalia of the stallion prior to collection.
- ② The collection of semen from the vaccinated stallion is conducted twice at an interval of one day or several days using an artificial vagina or a condom. The sample for virus isolation test is taken from a portion of sperm-rich fraction of the collected semen.
- ③ Two semen samples from the vaccinated stallion are subjected to virus isolation tests in accordance with procedures prescribed in “OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines, chapter 2.5.10 EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS” with negative result.