

Attachment 3: Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Horses

1. The quarantine requirements regulate the importation of horses of the Equidae family.
2. Testing referred to in these requirements must be conducted by laboratories owned, designated or approved by the government of the exporting country using methods listed in these requirements; or prescribed, recommended or considered suitable by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (hereinafter the OIE Manual) for confirmation of population or individual animals being free from infection with pathogens of corresponding diseases. For diseases with no such testing methods prescribed, recommended or considered suitable in the OIE Manual, methods that have been published in international scientific journals may also be used.
3. Horses are allowed to be imported only from countries or zones recognized by the central competent authority of the importing country as being free from glanders and African horse sickness (AHS).
4. For horses requiring an import permit as stipulated in the Animal Industry Act or the Wildlife Conservation Act, the permit must be obtained from relevant central competent authorities before applying for the import animal quarantine premises or other designated places for post-entry quarantine to the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country.
5. To import horses, the following requirements shall be complied with:
 - 5.1 Horses shall originate from countries or zones without Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis cases in the previous 2 years.
 - 5.2 Horses shall originate from the province (state) or equivalent administrative area without vesicular stomatitis cases in the previous year.
 - 5.3 The establishments of origin shall comply with the following requirements:
 - 5.3.1 No cases of Rabies, dourine, equine encephalomyelitis (eastern, western), equine infectious anemia, equine influenza, epizootic lymphangitis and equine piroplasmiasis have been confirmed in the previous year.
 - 5.3.2 No cases of Hendra virus infection, Nipah virus encephalitis, contagious equine metritis, horse pox, equine viral arteritis, strangles, melioidosis, equine rhinopneumonitis, Japanese encephalitis, surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*) and anthrax have been confirmed in the past 6 months.
 - 5.4 Before exportation, horses shall be detained in quarantine premises which are mosquito proof and under the supervision of the veterinarians accredited by the competent authority of the exporting country for at least 28 days prior to export. During the quarantine period, horses shall be examined and must be in a healthy condition without any clinical signs and subject to the following requirements:

- 5.4.1 Horses shall be subject to the following tests which must have negative results:
 - 5.4.1.1 For equine infectious anemia: Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) test or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA);
 - 5.4.1.2 For equine piroplasmiasis: Complement fixation test or indirect fluorescent antibody test or ELISA;
 - 5.4.1.3 For contagious equine metritis (except for geldings and hysterectomized mares): Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) or samplings of genital organs for bacteriological culture for at least twice at an interval more than 7 days;
 - 5.4.1.4 For equine viral arteritis: serum neutralization test;
 - 5.4.1.5 Vesicular stomatitis: Complement fixation test, ELISA or serum neutralization test; and
 - 5.4.1.6 Other tests that are provisionally designated by the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country in response to international epidemic.
- 5.4.2 Horses shall be treated with anthelmintics for internal and external parasites at least 10 days prior to export.
- 5.5 Either of the following quarantine measures regarding West Nile fever shall be conducted:
 - 5.5.1 Horses shall originate from establishments where West Nile fever have not occurred for at least 6 months, and are subject to the IgM capture enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay with negative results during pre-export quarantine.
 - 5.5.2 Horses shall be vaccinated with either of the following methods:
 - 5.5.2.1 Use of inactivated vaccines against West Nile fever twice at an interval of 21 to 42 days, and the second vaccination administered within 30 to 60 days prior to export.
 - 5.5.2.2 Vaccination against West Nile fever annually and an inactivated booster vaccine administered within 30 to 60 days prior to export.
- 5.6 Horses shall not be administered vaccines against AHS.
- 6. Each consignment shall be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate issued by the veterinarians of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country. The certificate shall state the following information in English or Chinese:
 - 6.1 Breed and origin of the animal:
 - 6.1.1 Scientific name or common name;
 - 6.1.2 Total quantity;
 - 6.1.3 Sex and age;
 - 6.1.4 Individual identification number or characteristics;
 - 6.1.5 The exporting country;
 - 6.1.6 Name and address of the establishment of origin; and
 - 6.1.7 Name and address of the exporter.

6.2 Destination:

6.2.1 Country of destination; and

6.2.2 Name and address of the importer.

6.3 Result of the quarantine:

6.3.1 Statement attesting that the animals fulfill the requirements stipulated in Article 5.

6.3.2 Start and end dates of pre-export quarantine, dates of specimen collection, name of the test laboratory, and methods, dates and results of the tests. The name of the journals, the publication date, and title of the associated articles are required when using methods published in international scientific journals.

6.3.3 Name of medicine, dosage and date of treatments for internal and external parasites.

6.3.4 Types of last two vaccines against West Nile fever and dates of administration.

6.4 Date of issuance, name and official stamp of the issuing authority, and name and signature of the issuing officer.

7. Regarding the requirements stated in Article 5, the exemption on implementing the requirements or adopting the alternatives may be applied with providing evidence in compliance with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the OIE Code) by the competent authority of the exporting country to the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country.

For the said application, inspectors may be dispatched to conduct an on-site audit if necessary. The expenditure is at the exporting country's expense. For exporting country which has signed bilateral or multilateral agreement with the importing country, the expenses should be shouldered according to the agreement. After review, if the application complies with the OIE code, the application will be approved.

8. The horses shall be transported in cargo holds with clean containers which have been treated with disinfectant approved by the competent authority of the exporting country. They are not allowed to transit through seaports/airports in countries or zones not recognized as being free from glanders and AHS. No additional feed, straw and forage, bedding or other susceptible animals are allowed to be loaded en route to the destination. The means of transport and transit shall comply with the OIE Code and the Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

9. For horses exported for international competitions and re-imported from other countries within a period of 2 months, the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country will conduct individual evaluation on a case-by-case basis, and the quarantine requirements are not applicable.