

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR COMMERCIAL BIRDS OF THE PARROT FAMILY, SONG BIRDS AND RATITES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

All commercial shipments of birds must be accompanied by a U.S. origin health certificate, VS Form 17-6 "Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export." The certificate must be signed or endorsed by a federal veterinarian. The certificate must state that the veterinarian has inspected the birds within 30 days prior to the date of export to Canada and found them free from any communicable disease and that, to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, the birds are free from and have not been exposed to avian pneumoencephalitis (Newcastle disease), pullorum disease, fowl plague, fowl typhoid, and psittacosis/ornithosis. (Checking statement B under item 12 on the VS Form 17-6 will meet this requirement) The exporter must ensure that the shipment is made in new containers or containers which have been properly cleaned and disinfected prior to export.

The certificate must also include the following statements:

1. Birds covered by this certificate do not originate from flocks nor had contact with any birds or poultry originating in a control zone established by state/provincial/Federal animal health authorities due to outbreaks of Newcastle disease or Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
2. The animal(s) being presented for importation were inspected by an accredited veterinarian of the country of origin during the thirty (30) day period immediately preceding export to Canada and have been found healthy and free from any clinical evidence of infectious disease and, as far as can be determined, exposure thereto. Date of inspection by the accredited veterinarian: _____ .
3. The owner has been instructed to report any suspected illness or death affecting any animal in the herd or flock of origin, between the date of the examination and the date of the shipment

A) Psittacine (parrot-type) birds:

The following is applicable to parrots, parakeets, cockatoos and cockatiels, budgerigars, lovebirds and other parrot-family birds. These require a health certificate, import permit, and quarantine in Canada. In addition to the VS Form 17-6 certification described above, the following additional statements must be made:

- a. The birds have not been vaccinated against avian pneumoencephalitis (Newcastle disease) or laryngotracheitis prior to entry into Canada,
- b. The individual wing or legband number of the birds or the official seal number of the shipping container appears on the certificate, and
- c. The birds have been continually resident in the United States for the 60-day period preceding the date of embarkation (this shall not include any period of quarantine) **OR** The birds were hatched in and have never been outside the United States.

B) Songbirds (birds other than psittacine-type birds or poultry):

The following is applicable to Mynah birds and songbirds such as toucans, robins, finches and canaries, doves, and DOES NOT INCLUDE pigeons, wild or domesticated waterfowl or poultry. In addition to the VS Form 17-6 certification described above, the following additional statements must be made:

-The birds have been continually resident in the United States for the 60-day period preceding the date of embarkation (this shall not include any quarantine period) **OR** The birds were hatched in and have never been outside the United States.

NOTE: The only species of Mynah bird which is allowed entry into Canada is the *Gracula religiosa* (the Hill Mynah).

C) Ratites (members of the ostrich family) and their hatching eggs:

The following is applicable to ostriches, emus, kiwis, cassowaries, tinamous and rheas. The VS Form 17-6 certificate described above is required. The birds must be fully described and have some form of identification such as an individual neck or legband. Ostriches must also be identified with an electronic microchip, and the exporter must ensure that the appropriate reading device accompanies the birds.