

**USDA APHIS VETERINARY SERVICES  
STRATEGY & POLICY  
PROTOCOL FOR THE IMPORTATION OF  
DOMESTIC SWINE FROM CANADA**

Updated May 2020

This protocol describes the conditions required to import live swine from Canada according to regulations found in 9 CFR Part 93.

**1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 1.1. A USDA **import permit** is not required for swine presented for entry into the U.S. at a land border port designated in 9 CFR 93.403(b) for the entry of swine from Canada.

These ports include: Houlton, Maine; Derby Line and Highgate Springs, Vermont; Alexandria Bay, Buffalo (Lewiston Bridge) and Champlain, New York; Port Huron and Detroit, Michigan; Pembina, Dunseith and Portal, North Dakota; Raymond and Sweetgrass, Montana; Eastport, Idaho; and Oroville and Sumas, Washington which are staffed on a full-time or part-time basis by U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Service Veterinary Services (USDA APHIS VS) personnel.

- 1.2. Swine presented for entry into the U.S. at sea, air, or non-designated land border ports must be accompanied by an **import permit** issued under the authority of USDA APHIS VS Strategy and Policy (S&P). To receive this permit, importers must submit VS Form 17-129, “Application for Import or In-Transit Permit”, which may be obtained by writing, calling, or downloading an application from the sources below.

USDA APHIS Veterinary Services  
Strategy & Policy,  
Unit 39, 4700 River Road  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231  
Telephone: **(301) 851-3300, Option 2**  
Fax: **(301) 734-4704**

Web Site: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/index.shtml)

- 1.3. Swine must be presented **by appointment** to a U.S. port of entry.
- 1.4. A VS Form 17-29, “**Declaration of Importation**,” must be presented by the importer or their agent for the use of the port veterinarian. A fillable form may be found at this link: ([https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/vs17\\_29.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms/pdf/vs17_29.pdf)).
- 1.5. An **official health certificate** is required for all swine presented for entry from Canada for purposes other than immediate slaughter (“non-slaughter swine”). The official health certificate must be issued by a veterinarian designated (accredited) by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and must be endorsed by a veterinarian employed by the CFIA attesting to the certifications required in this protocol.

1.5.1. Swine imported for immediate slaughter (“slaughter swine”) may be imported from Canada without health certification.

1.5.2. In the event of an FAD outbreak in Canada, an official health certificate (HA3049),

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will be required for swine for immediate slaughter as in 1.4.

- 1.6. **Farm-raised wild boar** (non-zoo source) from Canada are considered by USDA APHIS to be a sub-species of swine. Please refer to USDA APHIS VS Strategy & Policy Protocol for Importation of Farm Raised Wild Boar from Canada. Canada has separate export health certificates for farm-raised wild boar (HA2228), zoo swine (HA2230), and domestic swine.
- 1.7. Importers are advised that individual U.S. states may have additional requirements than USDA APHIS.
  - 1.7.1. It is the importer's responsibility to verify and to meet these conditions.
  - 1.7.2. Importers should contact officials in the destination state to determine these requirements (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-and-animal-product-import-information/entry-requirements/us-state-and-territory-animal-import-regulations>).
  - 1.7.3. These may include a state import permit, additional testing, and/or non-vaccination status.

**2. CERTIFICATIONS: The official health certificate must contain the following statements**

- 2.1. Canada is free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), African Swine Fever (ASF), Swine Pseudorabies (Aujeszky's Disease, AD), and Swine Vesicular Disease (SVD).

OR:
- 2.2. **In the event of an outbreak of foreign animal disease** in Canada, the swine intended for export to the U.S. did not originate from, or transit through, a current USDA APHIS recognized zone or region in Canada established due to the detection of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), African Swine Fever (ASF), Swine Pseudorabies (Aujeszky's Disease, AD), or Swine Vesicular Disease (SVD).
- 2.3. The swine were part of the national herd of Canada:
  - 2.3.1. The swine were born in Canada or the United States, and have been in no region other than Canada or the United States, or
  - 2.3.2. The swine have been legally imported into Canada from some other region and unconditionally released in Canada; they were eligible to move freely within that region without restriction of any kind and have been in Canada after such release for 60 days or longer.
- 2.4. The swine have not been imported into Canada from countries designated by USDA APHIS as affected with FMD, CSF, ASF, AD, or SVD; nor are they first generation progeny of such imported swine.

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- 2.5. The swine have had no contact with swine or swine products (including imported swine or swine products) that were located in a current USDA APHIS recognized zone or region established due to the detection of FMD, CSF, ASF, AD, or SVD.
- 2.6. The swine have not been vaccinated against FMD, CSF, ASF, AD or SVD and are not progeny of vaccinated sows.
  - 2.6.1. The swine have not been vaccinated with any other live or attenuated or inactivated vaccine during the 14 days preceding export to the U.S.
  - 2.6.2. Vaccination protocols for swine vary. Using their professional discretion, herd veterinarians develop vaccination protocols for each swine production situation. USDA APHIS will accept vaccination programs recommended by consulting swine veterinarians, published by swine experts, and/or developed by the swine industry for the control of existing swine diseases.
- 2.7. The attesting CFIA-accredited veterinarian has inspected the swine before the date of export and found them to be free of evidence of infectious and communicable diseases and, as far as can be determined, exposure thereto during the preceding 60 days.
  - 2.7.1. For non-slaughter swine, inspection must be within 14 days prior to export.
  - 2.7.2. In the event of an FAD outbreak, all swine (including swine for immediate slaughter) will require veterinary inspection.
  - 2.7.3. In the event of an FAD outbreak, inspection must be within 7 days prior to export.
- 2.8. The official health certificate must include:
  - 2.8.1. Region/country of origin;
  - 2.8.2. Name and address of exporter;
  - 2.8.3. Address or other means of identifying the premises of origin and any other premises where the animals resided immediately prior to export;
  - 2.8.4. Name and address of the importer;
  - 2.8.5. Physical address of destination in the U.S.;
  - 2.8.6. In the event of an FAD outbreak in Canada, the physical location of the APHIS-approved slaughter establishment and the applicable Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) establishment number for swine for immediate slaughter;
  - 2.8.7. Species, breed, and number of animals to be imported;
  - 2.8.8. Purpose of importation;

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- 2.8.9. Individual identification (see 2.9 below); and
- 2.8.10. Description of the animals, including age, sex, and breed (if applicable).
- 2.9. Before export, all swine (except those for immediate slaughter; see below) were individually identified with **official ear tags** using a unique indicator approved under Canada's official national identification system for swine developed by the CFIA, the National Livestock Identification and Traceability (TRACE) program.
  - 2.9.1. The tag/indicator must have a unique identification number which bears the official trademark of the responsible administrator (Pig Trace). The unique identification number must follow the ISO 11784 standard (15 digit unique number).
  - 2.9.2. **Official ear tags** are obtained from the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) and will bear the maple leaf logo of the CPC. Various styles (shapes, colors) of official tags exist for different ages and purposes of swine.
    - 2.9.2.1. Ear tags bear a unique 15 digit number that follows the ISO 11784 standard format. These can be either electronic (RFID) or non-electronic.  
  
OR
    - 2.9.2.2. Ear tags bear an official CPC-designated 5 digit alphanumeric herd mark unique to the production site. These ear tags will have a secondary unique herd management identification number on the same tag when used for breeding animals.
- 2.3.1. Official ear tags must be used for breeding swine greater than 70 days of age.
- 2.3.2. Official ear tags may be used for feeding swine of any age.
- 2.3.3. In the event of an FAD outbreak in Canada, official ear tags must be used for swine for immediate slaughter.
- 2.10. **Subcutaneous microchip implants** with an ISO 11784 identification number are approved indicators for swine kept primarily for research purposes, for entertainment purposes (performing swine), or for a person's company (pet/ companion swine).
  - 2.10.1. If microchip implants are used as the sole identification, the importer will provide the port veterinarian with a functional microchip reader.
  - 2.10.2. The animals should be arranged in the conveyance and the microchip implanted in a location which allow all microchips to be read without unloading the swine, if possible.

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**SWINE ID REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Swine Category</b>	<b>Primary ID</b>	<b>Secondary ID</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
Breeding	Official tag/ indicator	plastic or metal ear tag	
Feeding: Isoweans (<21 days of age)	CFIA- approved premises tattoo		(Tattoo must be clearly readable)
Feeding: >21 days of age	Official tag/ indicator	plastic or metal ear tag	
Special category: research	Official tag/ indicator or microchip implants with an ISO 11784 identification	plastic or metal ear tag	
Special category: entertainment	Official tag/ indicator or microchip implants with an ISO 11784 identification	plastic or metal ear tag	
Special category: pet/ companion	Official tag/ indicator or microchip implants with an ISO 11784 identification	plastic or metal ear tag	

**3. IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER SWINE**

- 3.1. Swine imported from Canada for immediate slaughter shall be consigned from the port of entry directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment and be slaughtered there within two weeks from the date of entry. As used in this section, “directly” means without unloading en route, if moved in a means of conveyance, or without stopping if moved in any other manner.
  - 3.1.1. Slaughter swine may be imported from Canada without certification, but shall be subject to the provisions of 9 CFR 93.507, 93.516, and 93.518.
  - 3.1.2. The Declaration of Importation (VS 17-29 form) is the only required document for immediate slaughter swine of any age originating in Canada except in the event of an FAD outbreak in Canada.
- 3.2. Slaughter swine must be visually inspected and conveyances sealed with USDA seals at the port of entry. Slaughter swine must then move directly to an APHIS-approved slaughter establishment.
- 3.3. Except for emergency situations, the seals may be broken only at the APHIS-approved slaughter establishment by an authorized USDA representative. If the seals must be broken due to an emergency situation, USDA APHIS Veterinary Services should be contacted as soon

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as possible either at the port of entry or in the state where the conveyance is located at the time of the emergency.

- 3.4. In the event of an FAD outbreak in Canada, official health certificates and official identification of each animal will be required for immediate slaughter swine.

**4. INSPECTION AT U.S. PORT OF ENTRY**

- 4.1. All swine presented for any purpose will be visually inspected onboard the conveyance by APHIS VS personnel at the port of entry. Port personnel will observe the basic principles of bio-security to reduce the potential for cross contamination between loads of swine.
- 4.2. **Non-slaughter swine:** The port VMO will perform a general visual health and fitness to travel inspection onboard the conveyance and will verify that appropriate official individual animal identification matches that listed on the health certificate.
- 4.2.1. If individual swine do not meet VS requirements for entry (identification, health certification), or if there is any concern about the health status/ fitness to travel of any swine in the shipment, the individual swine in the shipment may be refused entry, or the entire load may be refused entry, and returned to Canada, at the discretion of the port veterinarian.
- 4.2.2. If there are any swine exhibiting clinical signs of infectious disease, the entire load should be refused entry.
- 4.2.3. If swine presented for non-slaughter purposes meet all requirements for entry, the port veterinarians will issue VS Form 17-30, "Report of Animals, Poultry or Eggs Offered for Importation".
- 3.2 **Swine for Immediate Slaughter:** The port VMO shall perform a general visual health and fitness to travel inspection onboard the conveyance.
- 3.2.1 If any swine are found to be exhibiting clinical signs of infectious disease, or if there are other concerns about the health status of swine for immediate slaughter, the entire load should be refused entry.
- 3.2.2 If the swine for immediate slaughter meet all requirements for entry, the port veterinarian will seal the vehicle and issue VS form 17-30, "Report of Animals, Poultry or Eggs Offered for Importation" and VS form 17-33, "Animals Imported for Immediate Slaughter". These documents will accompany the slaughter swine from the port of entry directly to an APHIS-approved immediate slaughter facility.