



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services
Strategy and Policy
Live Animal Imports

4700 River Road
Unit 39

Riverdale, MD 20737

(301) 851-3000

November 22, 2019

Notice Regarding Permanent Privately Owned Equine Quarantine Facilities

USDA would like to remind quarantine operators of permitted activities when operating USDA approved permanent privately owned equine quarantine facilities and clarify APHIS oversight. APHIS Veterinary Services is committed to customer service and delivering our programs efficiently, effectively, and with integrity.

Per Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 93.308 (c)(1)(iv) approved permanent privately owned equine quarantine facilities must not be operated by a person responsibly connected with the business of the quarantine facility and acts as a paid agent (broker) for the importation or subsequent sale of horses.

A person responsibly connected with the business of the quarantine facility only defined as a person who has ownership, mortgage or lease interest in the facility's physical plant. This also may include being a partner, officer, director, holder, owner of 10 percent or more of its voting stock, or an employee in a managerial or executive capacity.

USDA may deny or withdraw approval of a permanent privately owned equine quarantine facility that is not in compliance with the current regulations. Quarantine requirements for APHIS approval are located at [9 CFR 93.308](#).

APHIS does work with each entity who submits a request for approval, and sets no limit on the number of quarantines facilities per approved port of entry. If the facility meets approval, APHIS representatives will be present at all import quarantine operations in order to monitor and to provide other technical services to ensure the biological security of the facility. Import quarantine operations at a permanent and temporary privately owned quarantine facility are conducted only with the physical presence of and monitoring by APHIS representatives. APHIS has sole discretion on the number of APHIS personnel assigned to the facility.

This document will be available on our website: [USDA APHIS VS Equine Import and Export Guidelines](#). For questions or concerns, please contact the Live Animal Import Director, Dr. Rachel Cezar-Martinez at Rachel.Cezar-Martinez@usda.gov or at the following phone number: (301) 851-3300.