# VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE IMPORTATION OF RACING PIGEONS FROM U.S.A

### **CERTIFICATE NO.:**

#### SOUTH AFRICAN VETERINARY IMPORT PERMIT NO.:

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: United States of America

ISSUING AUTHORITY: USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services

#### A. DESCRIPTION:

#### 1. Number and identification of pigeons:

NUMBER OF PIGEONS	RING NUMBER OR MICROCHIP NUMBER		

#### 2. Origin of pigeons:

- 2.1 Name and address of consignor:
- 2.2 Address of officially approved isolation facility:

#### 3. Destination of pigeons:

- 3.1 Name and address of consignee:
- 3.2 Physical address of premises at final destination:
- 3.3 Means of transport (flight no/vessel name)
- 3.4 Seal/ container number:

## B. HEALTH ATTESTATIONS:

I, ..... a veterinarian authorised thereto by

the Veterinary Authority of ... the United States of America. hereby certify that -

- 1. The quarantine of origin is free from notifiable high pathogenicity avian influenza virus for the past ninety days, according to the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
- 2. The pigeons described hereunder
  - a) have never participated in any other race;
  - b) were exported from premises that are approved for export by the veterinary authority of the exporting country;
  - c) have been kept in premises that are a dedicated bird establishment with no direct or indirect contact with poultry or poultry establishments;
  - were exported from premises which are free from veterinary restrictions affecting birds, where no cases of notifiable low pathogenicity avian influenza virus (H5 and H7) were reported during the previous 6 months, and no notifiable diseases of birds, including Newcastle disease, have been reported within the preceding three months;
  - e) were kept in pre-export quarantine for at least 28 days immediately prior to export and an all-in-allout principle was applied;
  - f) were individually identified by means of closed leg rings or microchips at the onset of quarantine and prior to sample collection;

- g) a statistically appropriate sample of the pigeons was subjected, with negative results, to diagnostic tests for avian influenza and Newcastle disease virus at least 14 days prior export (see notes hereunder for details of testing requirements);
- h) were not vaccinated against avian influenza and have no prior known history of positive serological results for avian influenza;
- i) were examined immediately prior to export and there was no evidence of poultry communicable diseases, were free of external parasites and are fit to travel.
- 3. The pigeons must be transported in sealed, mosquito proof (1mm width mesh aperture) containers.
- 4. Description of the pigeons (please provide a complete list of the ring numbers of all the pigeons in the consignment)

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5. Details of testing done for avian influenza and Newcastle to be given in the following format. A copy of the test results must also please be attached.

NUMBER OF PIGEONS	RING OR MICROCHIP NUMBER/S	TEST DATE	TEST RESULT

#### Notes on testing for avian influenza virus

- Following individual identification, samples must be collected for testing for avian influenza virus, with negative results, according to one of the following methods:
  - a) Serologically by testing serum by HI, ELISA and AGID tests
- b) In case of birds less than 250g agent identification by means of tracheal or cloacal swabs taken from live birds, or faeces and pooled organ samples from dead birds, subjected to PCR or virus isolation
- ii) In the case of waterfowl, all birds to be exported must be tested individually. In the case of birds other than waterfowl, the following table should be used to determine the number of birds to be tested per epidemiological unit:

Size of the epidemiological group	No. of birds to be sampled		
	For serology	For agent identification	
≤ 10	ALL	ALL	
≤ 20	16	ALL	
≤ 50	22	44	
≤ 100	25	50	
≤ 200	27	54	
≤ 900	28	56	
> 900	29	58	

iii) Birds may not have been vaccinated against H5 and/or H7 strains of Avian Influenza and positive serology will not be accepted.

#### Notes for testing for Newcastle disease virus

a) Serologically by testing serum by ELISA and HI tests
b) In case of birds less than 250g agent identification by means of tracheal or cloacal swabs taken from live birds, or faeces and pooled organ samples from dead birds, subjected to PCR or virus isolation

The following table should be used to determine the number of birds to be tested per epidemiological unit

Size of the	No. of birds to be sampled		
epidemiological group	For serology	For agent identification	
≤ 10	ALL	ALL	
≤ 20	15	ALL	
≤ 50	18	46	
≤ 100	26	54	
≤ 200	27	56	
≤ 500	28	61	
≤1000	28	62	

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Official stamp

Official Veterinarian

Date