



Australian Government

Biosecurity Australia

3 November 2006

DRAFT QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PERMANENT IMPORTATION OF HORSES FROM MACAU

Conditions of Administration

Importation under these conditions is restricted to horses that have been continuously resident in Macau for at least 60 days immediately preceding export to Australia.

Permission to import must be obtained in writing from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) prior to the export of the horses. A full description of each horse (including tattoos, microchips, brands, silhouettes) must be provided with the permit application.

Other conditions of administration, including details of import permit requirements and transport arrangements, are available from AQIS. Contact details are:

Live Animal Imports

AQIS

GPO Box 858

Canberra ACT 2601

Phone +61 2 6272 4454

Fax +61 2 6272 3110

E-mail animalimp@aqis.gov.au

The full requirements can also be viewed on AQIS' Import Conditions database (ICON) at www.aqis.gov.au.

Documentation

Each horse other than an unweaned foal less than 6 months old travelling with its dam will travel with an original international veterinary certificate in accord with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Code), Appendix 4.1.4., signed by an Official Veterinarian* of the country of export.

*Note: **Official Veterinarian** means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the country to perform certain designated official tasks associated with animal health and/or public health and inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, to certify in conformity with the Certification Procedures of Section 1.2. of the Code.

Format of the veterinary certificate

1. The veterinary certificate must:
 - be written in English, and a language understood by the Official Veterinarian of the country of export
 - meet all requirements of the **Veterinary certification** section of these conditions
 - provide the identification for each animal (passport details and/or microchip number/site or brand or silhouette) including description, species, sex and age

- include the name and address of the importer and exporter and the AQIS Import Permit number.
2. An Official Veterinarian must:
 - provide a separate veterinary certificate for each horse
 - sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate and all documents, eg laboratory reports that form part of the extended health certification with the stamp of the government veterinary administration
 - record his/her name, signature and contact details on the veterinary certificate.
 3. AQIS will only accept copies of documents where each page bears the original signature, date and stamp of the Official Veterinarian.

Pre-export quarantine premises requirements for the importation of horses from Macau

Except as specifically authorised by AQIS, the premises must be located within the Macau Jockey Club facilities, managed by the Macau Jockey Club. During quarantine, other equines may not be worked within 50 metres of horses on the premises.

Facilities

1. The premises must be surrounded by a secure perimeter fence, preventing contact with any horse not undergoing the same pre-export quarantine (PEQ).
2. The premises must have facilities for the safe unloading and loading of horses.

Operation

1. The premises must be approved by an Official Veterinarian prior to the commencement of the PEQ period.
2. The premises must be situated no less than 100 metres from any other accommodation used for horses not undergoing PEQ.
3. Stables must be cleaned and disinfected, with exercise yards and holding yards cleaned to the satisfaction of an Official Veterinarian, prior to the commencement of each PEQ.
4. The PEQ must be supervised by an Official Veterinarian.
5. The PEQ period will start from the time of entry of the last horse. Horses must not leave the premises during PEQ.
6. During PEQ the premises must not be occupied by horses other than those of this consignment unless otherwise agreed by AQIS.
7. All equipment used in feeding, handling and treatment of the horses in PEQ must be new or cleaned and disinfected before use and must be used only in the premises for the duration of the PEQ.
8. Personnel attending the horses must wear outer clothing and footwear used exclusively in the premises during PEQ, and wash their hands, before handling the animals.

9. Any health problems affecting animals on the premises during PEQ must be reported within 48 hours to the supervising Official Veterinarian. AQIS must be notified if the incident is of quarantine concern.
10. A detailed health record must be kept for each horse on the premises during the PEQ period. The health record must be available to the supervising Official Veterinarian.
11. Entry to the premises must be prevented unless specifically authorised by the supervising Official Veterinarian. All visitor entries must be recorded.
12. Vehicles and containers for transport of horses from the premises to the port of export must be cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the Official Veterinarian prior to loading.

Veterinary certification for the importation of horses from Macau

1. For the 60 days immediately prior to export the horse was continuously resident in Macau where:
 - African horse sickness, glanders, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, equine piroplasmiasis (*Theileria equi* or *Babesia caballi*) and vesicular stomatitis are compulsorily notifiable
 - vaccination against African horse sickness and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has not been practised during the last 12 months
 - no case of African horse sickness, dourine, glanders, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, or vesicular stomatitis has occurred during the last 2 years
 - no case of surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*) or Borna disease has been reported during the past 12 months
2. So far as can be determined, for the 60 days immediately prior to export the horse was continuously resident in Macau where no case of the following diseases or any other notifiable disease of equines has occurred during the previous 3 months:
 - equine influenza
 - contagious equine metritis
 - epizootic lymphangitis
 - equine ehrlichiosis (*Anaplasma phagocytophilum*, formerly *Ehrlichia equi*)
 - equine herpesvirus virus 1 (EHV-1) infection associated with central nervous disease or abortion
 - equine infectious anaemia
 - equine viral arteritis
 - equine piroplasmiasis (*Theileria equi* or *Babesia caballi*)
 - horse pox
 - Japanese encephalitis
 - Lyme disease
3. During the 12 months before the PEQ period the horse was vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis, using an approved vaccine.

4. During the 4 months before the PEQ period the horse was vaccinated against equine influenza, using an approved inactivated vaccine:
 - as a certified primary course comprising at least two doses in accordance with the manufacturer's directions
 - or
 - as a booster within 6 months of the primary course or previous booster vaccination, where it, and any prior vaccinations have been administered at least annually since the primary course.
5. The horse was held in PEQ for at least 21 days immediately prior to export in premises that met the physical and operational requirements specified in the 'Pre-export quarantine premises requirements' above.
6. In the case of a colt or stallion, each horse:
 - was subjected to a negative virus neutralisation test for equine viral arteritis (EVA) on blood drawn during PEQ
 - or
 - was subjected between 6 and 12 months of age to a diagnostic test for EVA on a blood sample with negative results, immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly revaccinated in accordance with the manufacturer's directions
 - or
 - was subjected to virus isolation tests as described in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals on two semen samples collected during PEQ with negative results.
7. During the period of PEQ:
 - the horse was subjected to a negative Coggins test for equine infectious anaemia (results attached to health certification);
 - the horse was subjected to negative indirect fluorescent antibody tests for *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi* (results attached to health certification);
 - the horse was treated with a broad spectrum anthelmintic (date and treatment schedule stated on certification);
 - within 48 hours of departure, each horse on the PEQ premises was treated with a parasiticide effective against ticks according to the manufacturer's recommendations (date and treatment schedule stated on certification);
 - the horse was not vaccinated;
 - all horses in the PEQ premises remained free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease, and had no contact with equines not of the same health status.
8. The horse was examined by an Official Veterinarian within 24 hours prior to leaving the PEQ premises for the port of export and was found to be:
 - free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease;
 - free of external parasites;
 - fit to travel.
9. The container for the transport of the horse to the port of export was cleaned and disinfected with a prescribed disinfectant to the satisfaction of the Official Veterinarian prior to loading the animals.

10. During transport to the port of export the horse had no contact with equines not of the same certified health status.
11. I am satisfied, after due enquiry, that the preparation for transport including disinfection of the interior of the aircraft, removable equipment and penning and containers have met the recommendations of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and that the containers are of a standard not less than that required by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.

Post-arrival quarantine requirements for the importation of horses from Macau

1. Each imported horse must undergo post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) in a Government animal quarantine station or other quarantine approved premises for 14 days.
2. During PAQ each horse in the consignment was thoroughly and systematically examined for the presence of ticks. Detection of ticks may result in further testing or treatment in PAQ.
3. During PAQ and while the imported horses remain under quarantine surveillance, they may be subjected to testing or treatment prescribed by AQIS at the importer's expense.
4. If any horse fails a test or shows signs of disease, that horse and any other horses in the PAQ premises may be:
 - detained in quarantine for further testing and observation
 - exported at the importer's expense
 - destroyed without recompense.

ROBYN MARTIN
General Manager
Animal Biosecurity