



Australian Government

Biosecurity Australia

3 November 2006

DRAFT QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RETURN OF AUSTRALIAN HORSES FROM MACAU AFTER COMPETING IN INTERNATIONAL RACES

Conditions of Administration

Importation under these conditions is restricted to horses that have been imported directly into Macau from Australia or New Zealand to compete in international racing, have remained in Macau since importation, and are being returned to Australia not more than 60 days after export to Macau. Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) may allow importation of Australian horses that have been imported into Macau from an approved third country to which that horse had been exported from Australia within the previous 60 days.

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

Each horse must have entered Macau by fulfilling Macau's importation requirements in accordance with the "Health Certificate for Registered Horses into Macau".

Whilst in Macau the horses must be held in isolation from horses not of equivalent health status in officially approved quarantine premises except during officially supervised training and competing, during transport to and from the venues for these activities, and from and to ports of import and export, as detailed in the **Veterinary certification** section of these conditions.

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 will travel with:

- a current international passport in accord with the Model Passport for International Movement of Competition Horses recommended in the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Code), Appendix 4.1.5., or a similar official document issued by an internationally recognised horse organisation, and
- an original international veterinary certificate in accord with the Code 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
 - certify the requirements of the **Veterinary certification** section of these conditions
 - provide complete identification for each animal (passport details, 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. The certifying 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.

Quarantine/isolation premises requirements for the Australian horses temporarily exported to 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 of the same quarantine status.
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 quarantine/isolation.
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 quarantine/isolation.

4. The premises must be supervised by an Official Veterinarian.
5. Horses must not leave the premises during residence in Macau except for training or competition under official veterinary supervision. At all times when outside the premises, other than during competition, the supervising veterinarian must ensure that horses are separated by at least 50 metres from horses not of the same quarantine status.
6. During quarantine/isolation, 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 quarantine must be new or cleaned and disinfected before use and must be used only in the premises for the duration of quarantine/isolation.
8. Personnel attending the horses must wear outer clothing and footwear used exclusively in the premises, and wash their hands, before handling the animals.
9. Any health problems affecting animals on the premises during the quarantine period 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 quarantine 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 return of horses from Macau after international races

1. During the 12 months prior to the date of this certification, Macau has been free from African horse sickness, dourine, epizootic lymphangitis, glanders, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis, and no case of surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*) or Borna disease has been reported.
2. The horse was vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis using an approved inactivated vaccine according to the directions of the manufacturer not less than 14 days prior to the date of export to Macau, and not more than 12 months prior to the date of return to Australia.
3. Equine influenza has not been reported in Macau during the 3 months prior to the date of this certification.
4. The horse was vaccinated against equine influenza using an approved inactivated vaccine not less than 14 days prior to the date of export to Macau, and not more than 4 months prior to the date of return to Australia:
 - 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. Since being imported from Australia or New Zealand the horse has been continuously resident under official supervision in approved isolation premises at least 100 metres from any horse not having current certified equine influenza vaccination status. During this time, no horses other than horses of equivalent health status were held at the premises.
6. While in Macau the horse has:
 - remained free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease
 - not been in contact with horses not of the same health status other than at the time of the international race meeting
 - had no direct contact during the international events with any horses which were suffering from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.
7. The horse has been continuously held in pre-export quarantine (PEQ) in approved premises after the last international event for at least 7 days immediately prior to export other than while:
 - being transported to and from training venues
 - training under official supervision
 - being transported to the port of export.While in PEQ the horse had no contact with any horse except other horses of the same consignment.
8. The horse, being a thoroughbred racehorse imported for racing, is being exported to Australia not more than 60 days since being exported from Australia.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. During transport to the port of export the horse had no contact with equines not of the same certified health status.
12. 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 re-importation of horses from Macau

1. On return to Australia the horse will be required to undergo post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) at a Government Animal Quarantine Station or a Quarantine Approved Premises for 14 days.
2. If any horse shows signs of disease, it may be subjected to testing or treatment prescribed by AQIS. If an exotic disease is diagnosed that horse, and any or all other horses in the PAQ premises, may be:
 - detained in quarantine for further testing and observation,
 - exported at the importer's expense, or
 - destroyed without recompense.

ROBYN MARTIN
General Manager
Animal Biosecurity