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## QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF ZOO PERISSODACTYLS FROM THE USA OR CANADA

### Scope

These requirements apply to the importation of perissodactyls including rhinoceros, tapirs, zebras, Przewalski's horses and other non-domesticated equidae from the United States of America (USA) or Canada.

### Documentation

- 1) A copy of a valid Permit to Import issued by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) must accompany each consignment. Further information may be obtained from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website [www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au) under Quarantine and export Services – Animals, or by Email to [animalimp@aqis.gov.au](mailto:animalimp@aqis.gov.au). A fee will be charged for the Permit.
- 2) The animal/s must be accompanied by a copy of an Environment Australia (EA) permit and appropriate CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) documentation from the exporting country. Details are available from the Director, Sustainable Wildlife Industries, EA – Email [wildlifetrade@ea.gov.au](mailto:wildlifetrade@ea.gov.au) or the EA website: <http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use>.
- 3) The animal/s must be accompanied by an *international veterinary certificate*. The certificate should be in the format of an OIE (Office International des Epizooties) Model International Veterinary Certificate for live animals and must give details of:
  - the identification of each animal including microchip number and site of implantation (rather than ear mark), species, sex and age;
  - name and address of exporter and zoo or wildlife park of origin;
  - name and address of consignee;
  - nature and identification of means of transport.

The veterinary certificate must be in English and be signed by an *Official Veterinarian\** of the country of export who must certify that:

- a) the premises of origin is a government registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park approved for the holding of non-domesticated animals;
- b) the premises of origin is located in a State or Province that has been free from vesicular stomatitis for the past 3 months;

- c) each animal for export has been continuously resident in the premises of origin for at least 12 months prior to certification or since birth;
- d) the premises of origin is under veterinary supervision, and a suitable health monitoring programme, including microbiological and parasitological tests and necropsies, is implemented;
- e) no case of African horse sickness, Rift Valley fever or Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has been reported in this country during the past 12 months;
- f) no case of dourine, epizootic lymphangitis, equine piroplasmosis, glanders, heartwater, horse pox or trypanosomosis (*Trypanosoma evansi*, *T vivax*) has been diagnosed in any animal in the premises of origin during the past 12 months;
- g) no case of equine infectious anaemia, equine influenza, equine viral encephalomyelitis or equine ehrlichiosis (*Ehrlichia risticii*, *E equi*) has been diagnosed in the past three months, and no case of bovine tuberculosis during the past 5 years, in any animal at the premises of origin of the same Family as the export animal/s;
- h) each animal that is a Przewalski's horse or a zebra has been vaccinated twice against equine influenza during the period between four months and 21 days prior to the scheduled date of export, using a vaccine approved for use in horses;
- i) the animal/s was/were isolated from other animals not of the same health and residency status for 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export, and remained free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease during that period;
- j) each animal has been individually identified with an ISO-compliant FDX-B microchip (transponder), and the site of implantation and the identification number of each animal is recorded on the *veterinary certificate*;
- k) at least 10 days after the commencement of the pre-export isolation period, samples were taken from each animal that is a Przewalski's horse or zebra (other than unweaned animals less than 6 months old) and tested at a government approved laboratory, with negative results, for equine piroplasmosis (*Babesia equi* & *B caballi*) by indirect fluorescent antibody test;
- l) each animal was treated for internal and external parasites (including ticks) with effective broad spectrum parasiticides twice during the 30 days prior to export at an interval of at least 14 days, and the dates of treatment, active ingredients and dose rates used for each animal are recorded in the individual health record attached to the *veterinary certificate*;
- m) he/ she or another *Official Veterinarian* has inspected each animal within 72 hours prior to export and found it to be healthy, free from ticks and other external parasites, and fit to travel;
- n) after due enquiry he /she is satisfied that each animal will be shipped in a container that meets the appropriate container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations.

Note\*: An *Official Veterinarian* is a veterinarian authorised by the *Veterinary Administration* of the exporting country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.2. of the OIE International Animal Health Code.

- 4) Individual health records including details of vaccinations, tests and treatments during the last two years or since the birth of each animal are to be attached to the *veterinary certificate*.

## **Transport**

The animal/s must be consigned directly to Australia. During transport to the port of export, during shipment, and during transport from the port of importation to the post-arrival quarantine facility, the animal/s must have no contact with animals not of the same consignment.

## **Quarantine**

In this section, quarantine means the holding of animals in a place and under conditions specified by AQIS pursuant to the *Quarantine Act 1908*.

Each animal must undergo at least 30 days post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) in a quarantine approved premises (QAP) and be inspected by an AQIS veterinarian and found free from signs of infectious disease before release from quarantine. During PAQ the animal/s are to be monitored daily for signs of illness and, if necessary, be subjected to a clinical examination. All animals dying are to be subjected to a post-mortem examination to determine the cause of death and AQIS is to be advised.

At the completion of PAQ, the animal/s will be released into premises approved by the appropriate State or Territory Government for holding the imported species, subject to meeting EA and CITES requirements.

While in PAQ the animal/s may be subjected to such tests and/or treatments as are specified by AQIS at the importer's expense. If any animal fails any test or shows evidence of an exotic disease during PAQ, it may be detained in quarantine, exported at the importer's expense or destroyed.

## **Other requirements**

Permission to introduce and keep imported perissodactyls will also be required from the Agency responsible for the regulation of the introduction and keeping of exotic animals in the State or Territory in which the importing institution or premises is located.

## **Review**

These conditions may be reviewed at any time at the discretion of the Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine (Australia).

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