

(Empowered under Section 8 of Animal rules 1962)

## VETERINARY REGULATIONS FOR TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF HORSES INTO MALAYSIA

### 1. PURPOSE

This regulation is for temporary importation of horses participating in any equestrian competition and / or shows.

### 2. IMPORT PERMIT

Each consignment of horses shall be accompanied by a valid import permit issued by the Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS).

### 3. IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT

Each horse shall be accompanied by current international equine passport recognized by the respective national federation or association describing the age, breed, sex, color, markings and /or other points of identification.

### 4. VETERINARY CERTIFICATION

Each horse shall be accompanied by a Veterinary Health Certificate issued not more than twenty four (24) hours prior to departure upon examination by a competent veterinary officer of the exporting country's Veterinary Authority at the port of embarkation. The Veterinary Health Certificate shall indicate the equine passport number, name and address of the residing premise of the horse and certify to the effect of the following :-

- 4.1 The country has been free from ***African Horse Sickness, Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis, Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis*** and ***Vesicular Stomatitis*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using ***serum neutralization test*** within 30 days of export with negative result at a dilution of 1:32 **OR** get the horse vaccinated with inactivated vaccines within 6 months but not less than 14 days prior to export.
- 4.2 The country has been free from ***Glanders*** for the last two (2) years **OR** the horse was tested using ***mallein test*** with negative result within 15 days prior to export.
- 4.3 The country has been free from ***Surra*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using ***Heamatocrit Centrifugation Test*** with negative result within 30 days of export.
- 4.4 The country has been free from ***Dourine*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using ***Complement Fixation Test*** with negative results within 15 days of export.
- 4.5 The country has been free from ***Equine Infectious Anemia*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using ***Immunodiffusion (Coggin's Test)*** with negative results within 30 days of export.
- 4.6 The country has been free from ***Equine Viral Arteritis*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using the ***Serum Neutralization Test*** with negative results at a dilution of 1:4, or twice 14 days apart, with no significant rise in titer evident within 30 days of export.
- 4.7 The country has been free from ***Equine Piroplasmosis*** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using ***Flourescent Antibody Test*** with negative results within 30 days prior to export.

- 4.8 The country has been free from **West Nile Virus Infection** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using **IgM capture ELISA** with negative results within 15 days prior to export.
- 4.9 The country has been free from **Equine Influenza Virus** for the last 12 months **OR** the horse was tested using **PCR or RT-PCR test** with negative results within 30 days prior to export.
- 4.10 No case of **Hendra Virus Infection** has been reported in horses in the country for the last 12 months. For horses from Australia and New Zealand, the horses shall be tested using **ELISA** test with negative results within 15 days of export.
- 4.11 All tests mentioned in this procedure shall be carried out in an accredited laboratory by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country using OIE prescribed methodologies.
- 4.12 The horses originated from establishment or farm or premises that has been free from the following disease for the last 12 months prior to export ; **Equine Infectious Anemia, Equine Viral Encephalomyelitis, West Nile Virus, Horse Pox, Scabies, Anthrax, Glanders, Dourine, Surra, Strangles, Epizootic Lymphagitis, Ulcerative Lymphagitis, Equine Rhinopneumonitis, Equine Viral Arteritis, Equine Piroplasmosis, Equine Influenza OR** any other notifiable horse disease in the exporting country.
- 4.13 The horse had been examined and was found clinically free from any infectious or Contagious disease at time of export.
- 4.14 The horse has been examined and was found clinically free from any **ectoparasites Infestation AND** was treated with an officially approved long-acting and broad spectrum anthelmintics and tickicides within 30 days but not less than 14 days prior to export.
- 4.15 The horse was vaccinated against the following equine disease by a registered and officially approved vaccine:-
- 4.15.1 **Equine Influenza** vaccinated with an inactivated vaccine according to the manufacturers recommendation between 21 to 90 days before shipment either with a primary course or a booster.
- 4.15.2 **Japanese – B Encephalitis** using inactivated vaccine once as a booster to certified primary course or twice at an interval of 4 to 6 weeks within 12 months but not less than 30 days prior to export (Exceptional for countries with disease-free status)

## 5. OTHER CONDITIONS

- 5.1 The horses shall be embarked from the exporting country as stated in the Veterinary Health Certificate and had not landed at any intermediate port during the voyage/flight to Malaysia unless approved by Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia.
- 5.2 The horses shall be sent directly from the port of embarkation to the port of destination without coming into contact with other equidae not of the same health status.
- 5.3 No other animals and fodder other than from the country where the horse were exported carried in the ship or aircraft during the time that the animals were on board the ship or aircraft.
- 5.4 The compartment of the aircraft carrying the horse shall be sprayed with insecticide immediately before the departure from the exporting country, the approved Intermediary port and before landing at Malaysia.

## **6. QUARANTINE / ISOLATION**

- 6.1 The horse shall undergo continuous 90 days confinement in an equestrian establishment not prohibited for animal health reasons prior to export. The horse shall be kept isolated from other resident horses in the said premise during the final 30 days to the exporting date under the supervision of the local Veterinary Authority.
- 6.2 Horses that have complied the rule and regulation stipulated herein and clinically sound at time of arrival will then be quarantine at designated quarantine station. The duration of quarantine period are as follows ;
- 6.2.1 Scheduled Countries = 14 days  
6.2.2 Non-scheduled Countries = 30 days
- 6.3 The horse shall be dispatch directly to the show/competition ground and shall be confined to the competition area designated by the show/ competition organizer and approved by the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia.

## **7. NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL**

The owner of the horse or his representative shall notify Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS) at the port/airport of disembarkation at least three working days before the arrival of the horse.

## **8. VETERINARY INSPECTION**

- 8.1 The horses will be inspected by Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS) at the port of disembarkation upon arrival and all documents stipulated in this regulation will be examined. The horse may subjected to blood sampling by the Malaysian Veterinary Authority for serological and bacterial screening within 24 hours post arrival.
- 8.2 The Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS) has the right to refuse the animal from entering Malaysia if :
- 8.2.1 The animal found not healthy, OR / AND  
8.2.2 The accompanied document is not in order.
- 8.3 Shall the horse is found clinically not healthy or tested positive, the horse shall be either quarantine for 14 to 30 Days in approved Quarantine Station for recovery, or the horse may be destroyed without compensation or returned to the exporting country at the discretion of the Director General of Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS). All expenses incurred for this procedure shall be borne by the owner of the horse.

## **9. OTHER REQUIREMENTS / INFORMATION**

- 9.1 Upon completion of the show/competition, the horse shall be exported back to its country of origin within 14 days after the show/competition participated ends.
- 9.2 The regulation of importation and fees stipulated may be changed without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances notwithstanding the issuance of the permit by Malaysian Quarantine & Inspection Services (MAQIS).

## **10. DISEASE OUTBREAK**

In the event of disease outbreak in the exporting country, the Director General of Veterinary Services or State Veterinary Director shall at his discretion to temporary suspend the importation of horses from that country until notification to release the suspension issued. The Director General or State Director shall also at his discretion to revoke the import approval, reject and

return the animals to country of origin or dispose the animals in any manner as he may deem fit or impose additional measures as necessary.

#### **11. RIGHT TO AMEND IMPORT REGULATIONS**

The Director General of Veterinary Services or State Veterinary Director shall amend the above regulations at any time as he may deem necessary.

**Department of Veterinary Services  
Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry  
Malaysia  
(Revised 12 November 2015)**