

REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF HORSES FROM NEW ZEALAND

- A. Animal : Horses
- B. Country of Export/Origin : New Zealand
- C. Purpose : Racing, Polo or Equestrian
- D. Regulations for Importation :

1. Import Permit

The consignment of animals shall be accompanied by a valid import permit issued by Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services (MAQIS).

2. Description of Animal

The horse(s) shall be accompanied by a certificate or passport containing a full description and identification of the animal.

3. Veterinary Certification

The horse(s) shall be accompanied by a valid veterinary health certificate issued by the competent veterinary officer of MAFF New Zealand certifying that ;

- 3.1. The horse(s) were continuously resident in New Zealand since birth or for at least three (3) months prior to export.
- 3.2. New Zealand has been free from **African horse sickness, equine influenza, Eastern, Western, Venezuelan and St. Louis equine encephalomyelitis, surra, dourine, glanders, equine infectious anaemia, equine viral arteritis, borna disease, epizootic lymphangitis, contagious equine metritis, vesicular stomatitis, equine piroplasmosis, Japanese encephalitis and horse pox** for the last two (2) years prior to export and that the diseases are compulsorily notifiable in New Zealand.
- 3.3. The horse(s) were originated from an establishment or farm where no case of the following diseases has occurred during the last six (6) months prior to export : **Hendra virus, strangles, equine rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1)** and any other notifiable diseases of equidae.
- 3.4. The horse(s) destined for export to Malaysia were kept in premises approved by MAFF New Zealand for at least two (2) weeks immediately prior to export; during the period the horse(s) were under close supervision of the competent veterinary officer of MAFF New Zealand and were held in isolation from all other equines and/or animals not of similar health status.
- 3.5. The horse(s) were subjected to the following measures :
 - 3.5.1. The horses are vaccinated with an inactivated or recombinant **Equine influenza** vaccine according to the manufacturer's recommendation between 21 to 90 days before shipment either with a primary course (vaccinated twice) or a booster.
 - 3.5.2. The horses shall be serological test on paired sera to detect protective level of specific antibody against **Equine influenza** using CFT / ELISA or any OIE recommended test. The second test shall be performed 3 weeks after vaccination.

- 3.5.3. The horse(s) have been tested for **Equine infectious anaemia** by immunodiffusion test (Coggin's test) with negative results, within 14 days prior to export.
- 3.5.4. The horse(s) have received a complete course of vaccination against **strangles** within the recommended period using an approved inactivated vaccine.
- 3.5.5. The horse(s) have been treated with an approved long-acting broad spectrum parasiticide effective against ticks and a broad spectrum anthelmintic within seven days of export.
- 3.6. The horse(s) have been examined by the competent veterinary officer of MAFF New Zealand within 24 hours of export and found to be healthy, free from any clinical evidence of infectious or contagious diseases and fit for travel.

4. Transportation and Landing Place

- 4.1. The consignment of horses shall be transported in clean, disinfected and sealed floats or carried by ship or aircraft direct to the entry point or prescribed landing place or any other port or airport as in Malaysia.
- 4.2. No other horses not of the same health status or any other animals of different species were carried on board the ship or aircraft.
- 4.3. No fodder should be taken on board the ship or aircraft at any intermediate port or airport, except the one that originated from New Zealand.

5. Quarantine in Malaysia

- 5.1. The horse(s) shall undergo quarantine for a period of not less than 14 clear days in the Department of Veterinary Services Quarantine Station upon arrival in Malaysia.
- 5.2. During the post-arrival quarantine, the horse(s) shall be subjected to the following measures;
 - 5.2.1. Nasopharyngeal swab sample and shall be tested with either by bacterial isolation and identification test of *Streptococcus equi* OR *Streptococcus equi* identification by PCR with negative results.
 - 5.2.2. Equine influenza test using PCR or RT-PCR with negative result.
 - 5.2.3. Other diseases test ; Equine herpes virus, Equine infectious anaemia virus, Western equine encephalomyelitis, Surra and Nipah virus using SNT / ELISA / AGID test.
- 5.3. The quarantine period may be extended if and when deemed necessary dependent on the health condition of the horse(s) and laboratory tests.

6. Other Conditions

- 6.1. All horses destined for export to Malaysia must not be pregnant. In the event of any such discovery on arrival in Malaysia, the mare and any in-contact material(s) shall be returned to the country of export/origin at the importer's/exporter's/agent's/owner's expense.
- 6.2. It should be the onus of the importer, agent or owner of the horse(s) to inform the Quarantine Officer of Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services (MAQIS), the expected date and time of arrival of the horse(s) with a notice of at least three working days prior to the arrival of the consignment in Malaysia.

- 6.3. The importer, agent or owner shall be responsible for all duties, fees or charges associated with the transportation, clearance and quarantine of the horse(s) and any other cost or expenditure incurred in the process of importation of the horse(s).
- 6.4. If any horse dies or is destroyed while under the custody of the Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services (MAQIS), the cost of destruction and any other charges associated shall be borne by the importer, agent or owner of the horse.

7. Suspension of Import

The Director General of Veterinary Services or State Veterinary Director may at any time when deem necessary to suspend importations from New Zealand either temporarily or permanently in the event of disease outbreaks or suspected disease outbreaks in New Zealand or in case of importation in contravention of the above regulations.

8. Right to Amend Import Regulations

The Director General of Veterinary 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
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