



Ref: CTO 2018 020 [1]

Live Horses: Equine viral arteritis

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to live horses from Singapore

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Lucy Johnston, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for live horses from Singapore in relation to the *Import Health Standard: Horses, HORANIIC.GEN*:

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is that the horse "OCEAN EMPEROR" is scheduled to compete in a race during the 28-day isolation period for equine viral arteritis (EVA). Under the IHS HORANIIC.GEN, horses must meet one of the OIE *Code* recommendations for EVA, which in this case is the following:

"The animals showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and during the 28 days prior to shipment and met one of the following requirements:

i) were isolated for the 28 days prior to shipment and were subjected to a test for EVA carried out on a single blood sample collected during the 21 days prior to shipment with a negative result;..."

The Singapore Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) has confirmed that the race which takes place 24 days prior to export includes only local Singapore horses and three internationally imported horses. EVA is a notifiable disease in Singapore and no case of the disease has been reported. Of the three horses that were imported, 2 are from Hong Kong and 1 is from New Zealand (free from EVA). Horses imported from Hong Kong have been certified as having come from a country that has been free from EVA for the last 12 months prior to date of export. As all horses in the race are considered to have an equivalent health status for EVA, the horse "OCEAN EMPEROR" is considered to be isolated from horses of a lesser health status for 28 days prior to export while participating in the race, and still meets the EVA requirements for import into New Zealand.

The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risks associated with this commodity have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.