



Dogs and Cats to Costa Rica (Guidance)

CRPET9 (GD)

Effective from 20 November 2020

1 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document has been issued to accompany *Dogs and Cats to Costa Rica (OMAR)*. This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that OMAR.

2 Specific guidance for the zoosanitary certificate

- (1) The animal(s) for export are to fully comply with the Animal Products Notice: Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping: *Animal Products Notice Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping*.
- (2) With regards to the import permit number, this may be identified as an Import Health Requirements Form which is only necessary for animals that are transported as cargo or are unaccompanied by the owner.

There may not be an Import Health Requirements form issued for animals travelling in the cabin or as checked baggage and accompanied by the owner on the same flight. If there is no document issued, write Not Applicable on the Import Permit line.
- (3) With regards to Clause 2, the expiration date of vaccine refers to the drug expiry date, and not the validity date of administration of the drug.
- (4) With regards to Clause 3, the endoparasite treatment is to be a broad-spectrum worming treatment which is licensed to treat round worms and tape worms.
- (5) With regards to Clause 4 the ectoparasite treatment is to be a broad-spectrum treatment that is licensed to treat ticks and fleas.
- (6) With regards to Clause 6, the dog is to be vaccinated with a current vaccination against distemper, hepatitis, canine parvovirus and leptospirosis.
- (7) With regards to Clause 7, the cat is to be vaccinated with a current vaccination against feline rhinotracheitis, calicivirus and panleukopenia.

3 Additional information

- (1) Further information taken from the requirements for the importation of dogs and cats to Costa Rica suggests:
- (2) Pets that will be transported as cargo or unaccompanied by the owner are to obtain an Import Health Requirements Form: "Formularioa para tramitar la importacion, exportacion o transito de animals 9DCA-PG-12-RE-02" and send it to the Animal Quarantine Department (AQD)", The importer can get the form from AQD (main office) in Barreal, via fax, email or downloading off the website. Additionally the importer needs to obtain the form "Forulario de Autorizacion de Desalmacenaje" through a customs broker in PROCOMER. Both forms are to be filled in completely and signed in blue ink.

- (3) Pets that will be transported in the cabin or as checked baggage and accompanied by the owner on the same flight do not require the form “Formulario de Requisitos Sanitarios”. The owner needs only to submit the Official Assurance export certificate issued by MPI. However, the owner must be able to demonstrate the pet arrived on the same flight as the checked baggage.
- (4) The importer is to notify the Animal Quarantine Officials seventy two (72) hours before the scheduled import of the animals into the port of entry.
- (5) The importer is responsible for presenting the required documents to the Animal Quarantine Officer (AQO) at the port of entry before clearing the animals at the customs office.
- (6) In the case of pets that will be transported as cargo or unaccompanied by the owner, the original and valid Import Health Requirements Form must be given to the AQD at the port of entry in the case. The AQD will then issue the form “Constancia de Inspeccion”.
- (7) If the Official Veterinarian at the port of entry finds evidence of disease in the animal, entry to Costa Rica will be refused in accordance with the “Regulations of Defense Animal Health, Decree 14584-A,” the animal will be reshipped to the country of origin at the owners expense.

4 Return to New Zealand

- (1) If you are planning on returning to New Zealand with your pet in the future, please contact the MPI Animal Imports team to obtain all the relevant information on importing pets back into New Zealand, and if there is anything that can expediate your animals return to New Zealand. We strongly suggest that this is done before your pet is exported from New Zealand, as not every country can meet the New Zealand import conditions, and so you may not be able to import your pet back into New Zealand.

For all the necessary information on importation into New Zealand, contact animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz

Disclaimer

This guidance does not constitute, and should not be regarded as, legal advice. While every effort has been made to ensure the information in this guidance is accurate, the Ministry for Primary Industries does not accept any responsibility or liability whatsoever for any error of fact, omission, interpretation or opinion that may be present, however it may have occurred.