



Horses to Japan (OMAR)

JPPER13 (OMAR)

Effective from 28 January 2022

TITLE

Animal Products Notice: Horses to Japan (OMAR)

COMMENCEMENT

This Animal Products Notice comes into force on 28 January 2022

REVOCATION

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces:

- Horses to Japan (OMAR), JPPER13, dated 19 July 2021

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Animal Products Notice is issued under sections 167(1) and 60(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999.

Dated at Wellington, 14 January 2022

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Animal Products Notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the zoosanitary requirements necessary to export compliant horses from New Zealand to Japan.

Background

The Animal Products Act 1999 provides the controls and mechanisms needed to give and to safeguard official assurances or zoosanitary certificates to facilitate the entry of animal material including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, and products into overseas markets.

Notices issued as Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs) under section 60(1)(a) and (b) of the Animal Products Act specify the requirements that are necessary or desirable for the purpose of facilitating access to overseas markets or are in accordance with the requirements of the relevant authority of the importing country.

OMARs may also determine the form and content of the official assurances that can be issued for animal material or product, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen or embryos, which meet the specified requirements.

Where the OMAR determines the form and content of the official assurances, a separate export certificate template is available to authorised persons, recognised persons and registered exporters who have applied for access to the certificate templates, to facilitate the completion and issuing of the relevant official assurance. That template will be an amendable version of the form set in the OMAR.

Notices issued under section 60(1)(c) of the Animal Products Act to safeguard the assurances provided by New Zealand, and guidance in the form of Operational Codes, should be read in conjunction with this Notice.

This OMAR specifies the requirements that must be met by exporters of horses to be exported from New Zealand to Japan and determines the form and content of the official assurance that must accompany the horses to be exported. The OMAR was issued after consultation with industry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

Who should read this Animal Products Notice?

Exporters of horses to Japan.

Why is this important?

This Notice is important because it sets out the requirements that need to be met so that the Director-General of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) can certify that the horses meet the requirements for export to Japan which New Zealand, in consultation with the government of Japan, has determined will apply. It should be noted that although the horses may comply with these requirements and be given an official assurance (by way of a certificate), the importing country ultimately retains control over what horses it clears for entry.

Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
19 July 2021	All sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition for New Zealand country freedom for equine infectious anaemia • Removal of testing for equine infectious anaemia • Addition of testing for equine piroplasmiasis, using an ELISA and an IFAT test • Minor grammatical edits • New OMAR format
28 January 2022	All sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition of recognition for New Zealand country freedom for West Nile fever • Update to the statement in clause 2.2 to reflect that there has been no microbiologically positive case on the premises of the horse(s) for export of the diseases listed in the statement. • Minor reference update to reflect accurate clause numbering.

Other information

Export non-conformances

Exporters should note that, under section 51 of the Animal Products Act 1999, where they have exported animal material or products, including live animals, hatching eggs, semen and embryos, that are refused entry by the foreign government they have a statutory duty to notify the Director-General of MPI not later than 24 hours after they have first knowledge of the event.

Liability

Section 61A of the Animal Products Act 1999 states that:

The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market.

Related documents

OMAR documents can be downloaded from <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/export-requirements/omars-for-live-animals-semen-and-embryos/>

When you click on the + symbol on the right-hand side of any OMAR document, you can view the related information and documents (guidance document and export certificate template).

The export certificate for this OMAR is provided for in *Horses to Japan (Export Certificate)*. The export certificate is password-protected through a RealMe® account.

Part 1: Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This Notice applies to the export of live horses from New Zealand to Japan.

1.2 Definitions

- (1) In this Notice, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Animal Products Act 1999.

MAFF means Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

ELISA means competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

IFAT means immunofluorescent antibody test.

PEQ means premises which have been approved as meeting MAFF requirements for pre-export quarantine facilities.

EI means equine influenza.

EVA means equine viral arteritis.

VS means vesicular stomatitis.

- (2) A term used in this Notice that is defined in the Act or the following Notices (or their successors) has the meaning given to it in the Act or that Notice:

- a) [Animal Products Notice: Official Assurances Specifications for Animal Material and Animal Products](#)
- b) [Animal Products Notice: Specifications for Laboratories](#)

1.3 Requirements for export

- (1) Horses exported from New Zealand to Japan must be accompanied by an official assurance in the form of a zoosanitary certificate, a sample version of which is included in Part 2.
- (2) A zoosanitary certificate must be completed and issued by an authorised person.
- (3) In order to issue a zoosanitary certificate, the authorised person must be satisfied that:
 - a) Horses transiting via Australia must be issued with the appropriate transit certificate.
 - b) The term "Name and address of consignee" must include both the importer's name and address and the physical property address in Japan.
 - c) Where the option of clause 4.1.2.2. is used for a stallion that has been vaccinated, the three blood samples taken on the three different dates should be tested in the laboratory on the same day, so that it is clear the stallion has a stable or declining antibody titre.
 - d) The proposed shipment otherwise meets the requirements of this Notice.

1.4 Laboratories

- (1) Where this Notice requires laboratory testing to be undertake, the testing must be done in laboratories operating in accordance with the Recognised Laboratory Programme (RLP) unless otherwise stated.

Part 2: Zoosanitary Certificate

Certificate No:

NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES**ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATE**

Commodity: HORSES

To: JAPAN

Exporting Country: NEW ZEALAND

Competent Authority: MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

I: IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANIMALS

Name	Breed	Age	Colour	Sex	Identification Microchip Number or brand or silhouette

Total number of horses in the consignment:

Note: For each horse, an identification silhouette or a valid official passport must be attached to this certificate.**II: SOURCE OF THE ANIMALS**

Name and address of the exporter:

.....

Name and address of the premises of origin:

.....

Name and address of the pre-export isolation facility:

.....

III: DESTINATION OF THE ANIMALS

Name and address of the consignee:

.....

Means and identification of transport:

.....

IV: SANITARY INFORMATION**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I,, an Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, certify, after due enquiry with respect to the horse(s) identified in this Zoosanitary Certificate, that:

1. Country health status

1.1 New Zealand is free of the following diseases:

African horse sickness	contagious equine metritis
equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern equine encephalomyelitis, Western equine encephalomyelitis and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis)	equine infectious anemia
equine paratyphoid (<i>Salmonella enterica</i> subs. <i>Enterica</i> serotype Abortusequi)	Equine trypanosomiasis (including dourine)
epizootic lymphangitis	glanders
equine influenza	horse pox
Japanese encephalitis	rabies
vesicular stomatitis	West Nile Fever

2. Premises of origin

2.1 Premises of origin is taken to mean any premises on which the horse(s) for export were resident during the sixty (60) days prior to entering pre-export isolation.

2.2 During the three (3) months prior to the commencement date of pre-export testing, there has been no clinical diagnosis, microbiologically or serologically positive case of the following diseases, or any other notifiable disease of animals of the equine species, on the premises of origin of the horse(s) for export:

equine rhinopneumonitis; equine viral arteritis; melioidosis; and equine piroplasmosis.

3. Vaccination status

Either

3.1 [the horse(s) for export has not been vaccinated in the last year;]*

Or

3.2 [the horse(s) for export has been vaccinated in the last year with the following vaccines:

Vaccine:.....	Date:
.....
.....
.....]*

*Delete as applicable

4. Pre-export testing

4.1 For equine viral arteritis (EVA):

Certificate No:

Either

- [4.1.1 any horse(s) that has not been vaccinated against EVA was subjected to the virus neutralisation test for EVA with negative results within thirty (30) days of the scheduled date of export (negative at a serum dilution of 1:4);

Date of sampling:

Date of testing:]*

Or

- [4.1.2 any horse(s) that is a stallion and that has been vaccinated against EVA must satisfy ALL the following requirements:

- 4.1.2.1 vaccination against EVA occurred immediately after testing negative to the virus neutralisation test for EVA (negative at a serum dilution of 1:4) (vaccination records must be officially verified, and all information recorded under clause 3.2 above);

Date of pre-vaccination sampling:.....

Date of testing:

- 4.1.2.2 pre-export serological sampling for EVA using the virus neutralisation test has occurred on three occasions at approximately two (2) week intervals. The first sample was taken on the premises of origin, the second and third during pre-export isolation, and the third within ten (10) days of the scheduled date of export. The three samples were tested at the same time after the third sample was taken - the results must demonstrate either no significant rise (taken to be a four-fold rise between any two samples) or stable/declining titres;

Dates of sampling:

(1).....(2).....(3).....

Date of testing:

- 4.1.2.3 the stallion(s) has been determined not to be semen carriers of EVA by either the covering test (test mating of two (2) mares) or virus isolation from semen performed in accordance with the methods described below:

4.1.2.3 (a) Covering test

The two (2) test mares to be used for the covering test must satisfy the requirements for horses to be exported to Japan and must be isolated at the same pre-export isolation facilities together with the vaccinated stallion during the thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of export of the vaccinated stallion to Japan with negative results of the following tests:

- (1) blood samples are taken from the two (2) mares immediately prior to entering pre-export isolation, and subjected to the virus neutralisation test with negative results at serum dilution 1:4;
- (2) during the thirty (30) day pre-export isolation period each of the two test mares is covered by the vaccinated stallion twice a day for two days. On the 14th day and the 28th day after the last covering, blood samples are taken from each of the two test mares and subjected to the virus neutralisation test with negative results at serum dilution 1:4;
- (3) the two (2) test mares are found to be free of signs or symptoms of equine viral arteritis during the 30-day pre-export isolation period.

Dates of entry of mares into pre-export isolation facilities:

(1) (2)

Dates of pre-isolation sampling: (1) (2)

Dates of covering: (1) (2)

Dates of post-covering sampling: (1) (2)

Dates of testing: (1) (2)

4.1.2.3 (b) Virus isolation from semen

The vaccinated stallions are isolated at the pre-export isolation facilities for the thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of export to Japan, and their semen is subjected to virus isolation as follows:

- (1) disinfectants are not used in cleaning of the collection instruments and the external genitalia of the stallions prior to collection;
- (2) the collection of semen from the vaccinated stallions is conducted twice at an interval of one (1) day or several days, using an artificial vagina or a condom. The sample for virus isolation is taken from the sperm-rich fraction of the collected semen;
- (3) two (2) semen samples from each vaccinated stallion are subjected to virus isolation in accordance with the procedures prescribed in the “OIE *Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines*”, Chapter 2.5.10, with negative results.

Dates of collection: (1) (2)

Dates of testing: (1) (2)]*

Delete whichever of 4.1.2.3 (a) or 4.1.2.3 (b) is not applicable)

- 4.2 For equine piroplasmiasis the horse(s) was subjected to a competitive enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (cELISA) test and an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT), with negative results, within thirty (30) days of the scheduled date of export.

Date of cELISA sampling:

Date of cELISA testing:

Date of IFAT sampling:

Date of IFAT testing:

5. Isolation

- 5.1 For at least seven (7) days immediately prior to export (**Note.** Stallion(s) tested for EVA in accordance with clause 4.1.2 above must be isolated for a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to export), the horse(s) was isolated from all other animals not of equivalent health status in pre-export isolation facilities (approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries as a secure and guaranteed place from an animal health point of view), under the supervision of an Official Veterinarian approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries.

Date of entry into pre-export isolation:

Date of completion of pre-export isolation:

Certificate No:

- 5.2 Throughout the pre-export isolation period the horse(s) for export was periodically inspected by an Official Veterinarian approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, and was found to be free from any clinical evidence of infectious or contagious diseases.

6. Transport

- 6.1 In so far as can be determined, all containers, vehicles and loading places of the ship or aircraft to be used to transport the horses from the pre-export isolation facilities to the port of export were previously cleaned and disinfected under the supervision of the government authorities of New Zealand with chemicals approved by the said authorities.
- 6.2 In so far as can be determined, during transportation from the pre-export isolation facilities to the port of embarkation the horses did not come into contact with any animals not of equivalent isolation and tested health status. No other animals not of equivalent health status have been loaded on the aircraft together with the horse(s) to be exported to Japan.
- 6.3 In so far as can be determined, feed and litter used during transportation from the port of export are provided from the same source as used for the pre-export isolation.

[7. Transit via Australia

After due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge:

- (i) the horses for export will transit through Australia en route to Japan;
- (ii) during the transit via Australia, the horses will have no contact with animals not of the same certified health status.]*

*Delete if not applicable

.....
Signature of the Official Veterinarian
Ministry for Primary Industries

.....
Official Stamp and Date

.....
Name and Address of Office (in block letters)

Note: The Official Veterinarian must sign, date and stamp each page of the veterinary certificate and, where applicable, all documents (e.g. laboratory reports) that form part of the extended health certification.