Overseas Market Access Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999 – Standards, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Ref: AE-ZA-13L
Date: 25 March 2011

OMAR B HORANIEC.SAF 25.03.11 – HORSES to THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

1. Statutory authority

Pursuant to section 60 of the Animal Products Act 1999:

(i) I notify the following overseas market access requirements, entitled horses to the Republic of South Africa

(ii) Revoke HORANIEC.SAF 29.02.08.

This notice takes effect from date of signing.

Dated at Wellington on this 18th day of April 2011.

Signed: Matthew Stone BVSc MVS MACVSc
Group Manager
Animal Imports and Exports
Import Export Directorate
Standards Branch
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
(pursuant to delegated authority)

2. Republic of South Africa Requirements

Horses exported from New Zealand to the Republic of South Africa must comply with the import requirements of the Republic of South Africa listed in this notice as follows:

2.1 An Import Permit is required for the exportation of horses to the Republic of South Africa.

2.2 An Official Veterinarian of the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, must certify, after due enquiry, the following:

2.2.1 New Zealand is free from the following diseases, and no cases have been recorded within the twelve (12) month period immediately prior to the horse(s) entering the pre-export isolation facility:

Borna disease	contagious equine metritis
dourine	equine encephalomyelitis (VEE, EEE, WEE)
equine infectious anaemia	equine influenza
glanders	surra (*Trypanosomia evansi)*
West Nile virus infection	

2.2.2 The horse(s) has been resident in New Zealand since birth or for a continuous period of at least sixty (60) days prior to export.

2.2.3 The horse(s) has not been on premises where strangles has occurred during the last six (6) months prior to export.

2.2.4 The horse(s) being exported to the Republic of South Africa was placed in a MAF approved pre-export isolation facility for a minimum period of thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled date of export; no other horses were introduced during the isolation period and no horses showed any clinical sign of an infectious disease during isolation. Date(s) of entry into pre-export isolation to be recorded.

2.2.5 For Equine Viral Arteritis:

Either* 2.2.5.1 During the period of pre-export isolation the horse(s) has been subjected to a serological test for equine viral arteritis (EVA) on two (2) occasions with negative results with an interval of at least twenty-one (21) days. Dates of samples to be recorded

Or* 2.2.5.2 In the case of stallions which have been vaccinated against EVA, they were subjected to a diagnostic test for EVA on a blood sample between six (6) and twelve (12) months of age, with negative results, and then immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly re-vaccinated thereafter. Proof of negative serology is attached to the health certificate. Date(s) of sample(s) and date(s) of vaccination(s) to be recorded

Or* 2.2.5.3 During the pre-export isolation period, the horse(s) has been subjected to a serological test for EVA on two (2) occasions with an interval of at least twenty one (21) days with no significant rise in titre. Date(s) of samples to be recorded.

* To be deleted as appropriate.

2.2.6 During the period of pre-export isolation the horse(s) has been subjected to the agar gel immunodiffusion (Coggins) test for equine infectious anaemia with negative results. Date(s) of sample(s) to be recorded.

2.2.7 During the sixty (60) days immediately prior to export, but not within fourteen (14) days of export, the horse(s) has received:

Either* 2.2.7.1 At least two (2) primary vaccinations against Equine Influenza using an epidemiological relevant vaccine given between twenty one (21) and forty two (42) days apart. Date first vaccination and second vaccination to be recorded

Or* 2.2.7.2 A booster vaccination against Equine Influenza using an epidemiological relevant vaccine which was given within six (6) months of a certified primary vaccination or any other previous booster vaccination having been administered within regular six (6) monthly intervals since the primary vaccination. Date of booster vaccination to be recorded.

2.2.8 If the horse(s) has been vaccinated against West Nile virus the details are listed below and in the horse's passport:* Date(s) of vaccination(s), name of vaccine(s) and batch number(s) to be recorded.

* To be deletes as appropriate.

2.2.9 The horse(s) for export was examined within seven (7) days prior to scheduled date of export by an Official Veterinarian and found to be clinically healthy, free of external parasites, and free of communicable diseases to which the species is susceptible.

2.2.10 The horse has been treated against internal parasites within seven (7) days prior to scheduled date of export. Date(s) of treatment to be recorded.

2.2.11 In the case of mares, they were subjected to a pregnancy test and certified as not pregnant or if pregnant, not more than eight (8) months pregnant at the date of export. In the case of pregnant mares, the last service date must be specified and must not be more than 240 days prior to the date of export. * Date of test(s)/last service(s) to be recorded.

* To be deleted as appropriate

2.2.12 The horse(s) being exported to the Republic of South Africa was examined within forty eight (48) hours prior to departure by an Official Veterinarian and was found to be healthy and fit to travel, and not exhibiting any clinical signs of equine influenza and strangles.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 and used, but not defined in this document, has the same meaning as in this Act.

Explanatory note

This OMAR is based on the export certificate for horses to the Republic of South Africa, dated 25 March 2011.

Additional Information on OMAR Notification: HORANIEC.SAF 25.03.11

1. This OMAR replaces the previous one dated 29 February 2008. The changes made are to add another option for equine viral arteritis testing, change the options for Equine Influenza vaccinations and add the microchip number to the identification table. These changes are based on the updated Import Permit dated 22 February 2011. It was approved by South Africa on 11 April 2011.

2. An Import Permit is required. For further details contact the Directorate of Animal Health, Private Bag X138, Pretoria 0001, Republic of South Africa.

3. A separate health certificate is to be issued in respect of the horses consigned to each importer.

4. Upon arrival in the Republic of South Africa, the horses shall be kept at an official quarantine station at the risk and expense of the owner, for a minimum period of thirty (30) days. It will be subjected to tests and vaccinations prescribed by the Senior Manager Animal Health. Such tests and vaccinations will be carried out at the risk and expense of the owner of the animal.

5. The State Veterinarian at the port of entry must be advised of the date of arrival of the animals.

6. Any consignment imported into the Republic of South Africa packed with either wood packing material or dunnage, will require treatment to remove any pests present (by heat or methyl bromide fumigation). Treatment must be indicated on packaging material.

7. The vaccination details for West Nile virus only need to be completed if the horse has been vaccinated, otherwise strike out this information.

8. Horses must be micro chipped with an ISO compliant microchip and the number must be recorded in the horse's passport.

9. For EVA testing (2.2.5.3) The antibody titre of the second sample was not more than double of the first sample indicating a stable titre or the second sample was less than the first sample indicating a falling titre.

10. According to the current recommendations from the OIE Expert Panel on Equine Influenza, an Equine Influenza epidemiological relevant vaccine must contain an A/eq/South Africa/4/2003-like virus. In the case of a primary course, both must be A/eq/South Africa/4/2003-like virus. In the case of a booster, only the booster must be A/eq/South Africa/4/2003-like virus, not the primary vaccination.

Section 61.A of the Animal Products Amendments Act 2005 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'.