



Dogs and Cats to Taiwan (Guidance)

TWPET9

Effective from 11 October 2024

1 Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
11 October 2024	All sections	New Guidance Document for <i>Dogs and Cats to Taiwan (OMAR)</i> , dated 14 July 2017.

2 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document has been issued to accompany the corresponding Overseas Market Access Requirements (*OMAR*). This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that *OMAR*.

3 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.
- (2) An Import Permit is required and should be applied for in writing at least 20 days prior to export to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry, branch of the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine, Council of Agriculture (BAPHIQ). The 20 day time frame has been confirmed as accurate due to New Zealand being a rabies free recognised country.
- (3) Regarding rabies vaccination requirements:
 - a) The vaccination requirements are considered satisfied if:
 - i) the animal's microchip is verified at the time of vaccine administration,
 - ii) the animal is the age recommended by the manufacturer when receiving the vaccine.
 - iii) the vaccine(s) has not expired at the time of administration. That is, vaccines can be used up until and including on their expiry date, but not after.
 - b) The vaccine's duration of immunity or next vaccine due date should be determined by the clinical veterinarian administering the vaccine and recorded on the vaccine record. The duration of immunity should not be longer than the manufacturer's recommendations.
 - i) If the vaccine is not administered before or on the due date, then it is considered to have lapsed.
 - ii) If a vaccine's duration of immunity lapses, a clinical veterinarian should determine whether a primary vaccination course should be repeated, or just a booster, but this should align with the manufacturer's instructions.

- iii) Despite the guidance in point d), for the People's Republic of China, the duration of the immunity for the rabies vaccine is up to a year (12 months) even if manufacturer recommendations suggest a 3-year immunity period.
- (4) In addition to the general vaccination requirements above:
 - a) Regarding clause 3.1 of the export certificate, the rabies vaccination must be given when the animal is at least 3 months of age, and the vaccination must be given at least 30 days prior to certification and not more than 12 months prior to the date of export.

4 Additional information

Further information taken from the requirements for the importation of dogs and cats to Taiwan suggests:

- (1) Upon a dog/cat's arrival at a Taiwanese port from a rabies-free country (zone), the importer shall submit the following documents to the animal quarantine authority stationed at the port of entry to apply for quarantine inspection:
 - a) Photocopy of the Import Permit;
 - b) The original Export Veterinary certificate;
 - c) Photocopy of the bill of lading, airway bill or customs declaration.
- (2) The animal quarantine authority will issue the import veterinary certificate, after confirming that all requirements are met, and the animal gives no cause for suspicion of notifiable animal infectious diseases.
- (3) The dog or cat without an original veterinary export certificate issued by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries shall be re-exported, destroyed or sent to a post-entry quarantine facility.
- (4) The dog or cat may be re-exported, destroyed or sent to a post-entry quarantine facility if it has been transferred from one transportation vehicle to another in a rabies infected country (zone) on its way from New Zealand to Taiwan, unless it complies with any of the following requirements:
 - a) The transportation cage was sealed by the exporting country's animal quarantine authority and the seal number is shown on the Export Veterinary Certificate, or;
 - b) the dog/cat is accompanied by a document issued by the animal quarantine authority or customs authority of the transshipping country (zone), or by the airline or shipping company, attesting that the dog/cat did not leave the airport or harbour while transferring, and had no contact with other animals susceptible to rabies.

5 Returning 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

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