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Department of
**Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food**
An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Iascaigh agus Bia**

DRAFT IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS REPORT FOR HORSES FROM APPROVED COUNTRIES

Dear Robyn

Thank you for forwarding the draft Import Risk Analysis report. We have concentrated on examining Chapters 7 & 8. In general we do not have problems with the document but seek clarification on a few items

The opening paragraph of Chapter 7 states,

“The proposed quarantine measures described in this draft IRA report apply to the importation of horses, mules and donkeys from approved countries. Specific measures will be developed for each approved country and will reflect that country’s animal health status.”


This statement appears to be ambiguous. Are these measures not already developed for horses intending to be quarantined in Ireland prior to dispatch to Australia? As we have pointed out before, early advance notice about changes to requirements is essential to minimise problems with potential exports.

In Chapter 8 under Pre-export quarantine requirement it states,

“Before horses leave the PEQ facility the Official Veterinarian must provide evidence to AQIS, in the form of a checklist, that veterinary certificates and health records have been inspected and comply with the quarantine requirements.”

How soon before leaving the PEQ do you require this information, which presumably will be e-mailed or faxed to AQIS?

Yours sincerely


P.P.
Paddy Rogan
Chief Veterinary Officer