



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



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### **Interim conditions for the permanent and temporary importation of horses from the United Kingdom (UK)**

All aspects of these conditions are under regular review and will be modified as circumstances require.

1. Current import protocols will continue to apply for the import of horses. Horses imported permanently must undergo pre export quarantine (PEQ) for a minimum of 21 days and post arrival quarantine (PAQ) for 14 days. Horses imported temporarily must undergo PEQ for a minimum of 14 days, PAQ for 14 days and be held under quarantine surveillance until exported. (Refer to import protocols including *Quarantine Requirements for the Temporary Importation of Horses from Member States of the European Union for Racing and Other Competition* and *Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Horses from Member States of the European Union*).
2. PEQ facilities will be approved by AQIS on a case-by-case basis. Approval will include consideration of the distance of the facility from any confirmed foot and mouth disease (FMD) cases in the 3 months prior to the approval being given.
3. Approval of a PEQ facility will be re-considered, and may be withdrawn, if the FMD status of the area surrounding a PEQ facility changes during the PEQ period.

#### **Additional risk reduction measures:**

##### **Pre-export quarantine**

- (i) In the 21 days prior to entering PEQ the horse for export has not resided on any property subject to the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Form A restrictions.
- (ii) No cloven hoofed animals are to be permitted in the PEQ premises for 28 days prior to commencement of PEQ and during the PEQ itself. Any cloven hoofed animals that have been on the PEQ premises must be free from FMD. Any potential risk material, eg manure, must be removed from the PEQ before entry of the horses.
- (iii) The PEQ facility must be an approved property that is at least 10 kms from any FMD infected premises. (NB While 10 kms is the minimum distance, it is an indicative distance only).
- (iv) The horses are to be transported to the PEQ facility in dedicated horse transport vehicles that are cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the inspecting official veterinarian.

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- (v) Horses are to be cleaned on arrival into PEQ and, again, within 24 hours prior to embarkation. An approved disinfectant is to be applied to the horses' coats, and hooves are to be soaked in an approved disinfectant in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Horse shoes must be removed for cleaning either during the initial cleaning process on arrival in PEQ or during the cleaning and disinfection prior to embarkation. Cleaning and disinfection is to be supervised by the inspecting official veterinarian.
- (vi) Straw is not to be used as stable bedding during PEQ.
- (vii) No vehicles are permitted inside the PEQ facility fences except for delivery and pick up of horses for shipment.
- (viii) Horses are to be transported from the PEQ facility to the port of export in dedicated horse transport vehicles that have been cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the inspecting official veterinarian.
- (ix) The movement of people into the PEQ must be restricted to essential staff. Work clothes and boots must be clean on arrival into the PEQ facility and must remain on-site for the duration of PEQ. Street clothes and shoes must be worn when leaving the facility during PEQ. Any persons handling the horses in PEQ must shower on entry into the PEQ.

#### **Post-arrival quarantine (PAQ)**

- (x) Horses are to be cleaned and an approved disinfectant is to be applied to the coats and hooves after arrival at the PAQ facility.
- (xi) No cloven hoofed animals are to be in the PAQ facility while horses are undergoing PAQ isolation.
- (xii) No cloven hoofed animals or other horses are to be within 100 metres of the imported animals during PAQ.
- (xiii) Grooms and other personnel who remain on-site during PAQ must not wear work clothes or work shoes when leaving the station. These items must remain on-site for the duration of PAQ and be cleaned at the end of PAQ.

#### **Personnel and equipment**

- (xiv) Only the minimum necessary equipment may accompany the horse to Australia.
- (xv) All used saddles and leather tack is to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant prior to departure. This process must be supervised by the inspecting official veterinarian and all equipment sealed after cleaning. The equipment will be inspected on arrival in Australia and

may be irradiated if there are concerns with the padding material in the saddles or insect infestation.

- (xvi) All non leather equipment is to be thoroughly cleaned prior to departure and disinfected with an approved disinfectant according to the manufacturer's directions, eg sprayed with Virkon.
- (xvii) Persons accompanying the horses must bring clean laundered clothing only. Footwear will be inspected, cleaned and disinfected on arrival in Australia, consistent with measures for the clearance of other airline passengers.