



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



AFFA00/15228

4 December 2002

**QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF  
 NON-DOMESTIC FELIDAE INTO ZOOS AND CIRCUSES**

(These requirements are an update on the requirements implemented on 29 April 2002. They supersede the INTERIM QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF ZOO CARNIVORES with respect to zoo Felidae only.)

**Part 1. GENERAL**

Exporting countries must have approval from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) to provide health certification for the export of live animals to Australia.

**Documentation**

Each consignment of non-domestic Felidae must be accompanied by a copy of a valid AQIS Permit to Import Quarantine Material into Australia, available by application to AQIS, and a copy of an Environment Australia (EA) permit and appropriate CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) documentation. Addresses are at Appendix I.

The non-domestic Felidae must also be accompanied by an *international veterinary certificate* in the format of Office International des Epizooties (OIE) International Animal Health Code Model Certificate for live animals. The certificate must be in English and be signed by an *Official Veterinarian*.<sup>1</sup> The certificate must be stamped on each page with an official stamp. The animals for import must meet the requirements specified in Part 2 of this document. This must be certified in the veterinary certificate.

**Part 2. INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

**2.1 Details of animals and premises**

The veterinary certificate must give details of

- the identification of each animal including scientific name, sex, age, and identifying marks, registration number or microchip implant number and type of implant;
- name and address of exporter and registered or licensed zoo or wildlife park of origin;
- ;

<sup>1</sup> An *Official Veterinarian* means a veterinarian authorised by the *Veterinary Administration* of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of *commodities* and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.2. of this *Code*.

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- name and address of premises at which the animal for export has been present during the past twelve months or since birth
- name and address of consignee;
- nature and identification of means of transport.

### **Requirements for disease freedom, tests and treatment.**

The *Official Veterinarian* must certify, striking out each clause that is inapplicable, that:

#### 2.2.1 Premises of origin

- the premises of origin is a Government registered or licensed zoological gardens, wildlife park or scientific institution approved for the holding of non-domestic carnivores, and
- the premises is under permanent veterinary supervision, and a suitable health monitoring programme is followed, including microbiological and parasitological tests as well as necropsies, and
- each animal for export has resided in the institution of export for the 12 months preceding export, or since birth.

#### 2.2.2 Rabies

- (i) The country of export is free from rabies as described in Article 3.1.5.2. of the OIE International Animal Health Code; OR
- (ii) the exporting institution has reported no case of rabies in the 12 months prior to export, and has effective controls to prevent the entry of rabies vectors; OR
- (iii) each animal for export was
  - vaccinated against rabies using an approved inactivated vaccine; in the case of a primary vaccination, two vaccinations, the first when the animal was at least 3 months old and the second vaccination 4-6 weeks later. The second vaccination was not less than 6 months and not more than one year prior to the scheduled date of shipment (in the case of a booster vaccination, one vaccination not more than one year prior to the scheduled date of shipment); and
  - subjected not less than 3 months and not more than 24 months prior to shipment to a neutralising antibody titration test, and that its serum contained at least 0.5 IU/ml.

#### 2.2.3 Nipah virus

- (i) The country of export has been free from Nipah virus for the two year period prior to export; OR
- (ii) each animal for export was subjected to 30 days isolation from all other animals not of the same certifiable health status prior to export during which time there was no case of Nipah disease on the premises. Each animal for export was, during this 30 day period, blood tested by a serum neutralisation test for Nipah virus with a negative result.

#### 2.2.4 Distemper

- (i) Each animal for export has been vaccinated against canine distemper twice within the 6 months prior to export, the second vaccination no less than 14 days prior to the date of export, OR
- (ii) the exporting institution has been free from canine distemper for a period of 12 months prior to export, and each animal for export was subjected to 30 days isolation from all other animals not of the same certifiable health status prior to export.

### 2.2.5 Tuberculosis

The institution of export has been free from tuberculosis in Felidae and Ungulates for the past five years.

### 2.2.6 *Burkholderia mallei*

- (i) The country of export is free from glanders according to the OIE International Animal Health Code Chapter 3.4.8.2.; OR
- (ii) the institution of export has been free from glanders for the past 12 months.

### 2.2.7 *Trypanosoma Evansi*

- (i) The country of export has been free from *Trypanosoma evansi* for the past 12 months; OR
- (ii) the exporting institution has had no recorded case of *T. evansi* in the past 12 months, and
  - the animal for export has been subjected within 30 days of export to either
- (a) an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for *T. evansi* antibodies with a negative result, or
- (b) an immunofluorescent antibody test (IFAT) with a negative result; and
  - was treated with an insect repellent at the time of collection of the blood.

### 2.2.8 Miscellaneous parasites and general health

- (i) The animal for export was treated, within 5 days prior to export, with an anthelmintic effective against cestodes at the recommended dose rate; AND
- (ii) The animal was treated, within 5 days prior to export, with an anthelmintic effective against gastric/intestinal nematodes; AND
- (iii) The animal for export was treated, within 5 days of export, with an internal or external parasiticide effective against insect and tick parasites and their larvae.
- (iv) The animal for export was examined within 72 hours of export and was found to be in good health, showing no signs of obvious weight loss, free from external parasites, including any sign of cutaneous myiasis, and considered fit to travel.
- (v) Documentary evidence has been sighted that the animal for export has been vaccinated against feline rhinotracheitis, feline calicivirus, feline panleucopaenia virus no less than 14 days and no more than 12 months prior to export.

### 2.2.9 *Cytauxzoon felis*

This section applies only to *Lynx rufus* (bobcats) that have resided, previously or currently, in North America.

The animal for export was tested within 30 days of export by

- a blood smear for the presence of *Cytauxzoon felis*, AND
- a microfluorometric immunoassay test<sup>2</sup> for antibodies to *C. felis*,

both with a negative result.

### 2.2.10 Shipping container

After due inquiry he /she is satisfied that each animal will be shipped in a container that meets the container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations.

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<sup>2</sup> FIAX 100, Whittaker MA Bioproducts, Walkersville, Md.

### **Part 3. TRANSPORT AND IMPORTER'S/AGENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **TRANSPORT**

The animal/s must be consigned to Australia by an approved route. During transport to the port of export, during shipment, and during transport from the port of importation to the post-arrival quarantine facility, the animal/s must have no contact with animals not of the same consignment.

Transshipment en route may only be done with AQIS's prior approval.

#### **Part 4. POST-ARRIVAL QUARANTINE**

On arrival in Australia the animals must be transported directly to a quarantine approved premises where they will be held for at least 30 days in post-arrival quarantine.

If any animal arrives without certification, incomplete certification or certification that is otherwise unsatisfactory it may be ordered into quarantine, re-exported or destroyed.

During quarantine all animals are to be monitored daily for signs of illness and, if necessary, be subjected to a clinical examination, and all animals dying for any reason are to be subjected to complete post-mortem examination to determine the cause of death. AQIS are to be advised in each case. The animals must be inspected and found free from signs of infectious disease before they may be released from quarantine under quarantine surveillance.

The imported animals will be released from quarantine under quarantine surveillance in premises approved by the appropriate State or Territory government for the holding of the species imported, subject to meeting EA and CITES requirements. They will be held under quarantine surveillance for six months from the time of arrival. The 30 day quarantine period is included. During the period of quarantine surveillance the animals must be monitored for signs of exotic disease and AQIS is to be notified in the event of suspicious signs. During quarantine surveillance excreta and carcasses of imported animals must be disposed of in an approved manner.

During post-arrival quarantine, or quarantine surveillance, the animal/s may be subjected to such tests and/or treatments as are specified by AQIS at the importer's expense. If any animal fails any test or shows evidence of an exotic disease during post-arrival quarantine, it may be detained in quarantine isolation, exported at the importer's expense or destroyed.

At the completion of quarantine surveillance the animals will be released or released under quarantine surveillance into premises approved by the appropriate State or Territory government for the holding of the species imported, subject to meeting EA and CITES requirements.

#### **Part 5 - REVIEW**

These conditions may be reviewed at any time at the discretion of the Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine (Australia).

DAVID BANKS  
General Manager  
Animal Biosecurity

## APPENDIX I

### PERMISSION TO IMPORT NON-DOMESTIC FELIDS

Information on applying for an AQIS Permit to Import Quarantine Material may be obtained from the AFFA website [www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au) → Quarantine & Export Services → Animals or by Email to [animalimp@aqis.gov.au](mailto:animalimp@aqis.gov.au) . A processing fee will be charged for the Permit.

Details of the Environment Australia (EA) permit and CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) documentation are available from the wildlife Permits and Enforcement Section of EA - Email [wildlifetrade@ea.gov.au](mailto:wildlifetrade@ea.gov.au) or through their website [www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use](http://www.ea.gov.au/biodiversity/trade-use)