



ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF NON-DOMESTIC FELIDAE

21 November 2005

(promulgated 29 April 2002, amended September 2003, amended November 2005)

General

1. These requirements apply to members of the Order Carnivora, Family Felidae, other than the domestic cat *Felis catus*.
2. An Import Permit is required and must be applied for **prior** to importation. Details of this and other 'Conditions of Administration' are available from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS):

Live Animal Imports

AQIS

GPO Box 858

Canberra 2600

Fax +61 2 6272 3110

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Phone +61 2 6272 4454

Transport

During transport to the port of export, shipment, and transport from the port of importation to the post-arrival quarantine facility (PAQ), the animal(s) must have no direct contact with animals not of the same consignment.

Veterinary certification for the importation of non-domestic felidae

A veterinary certificate for each animal, signed by an Official Veterinarian of the country of export, must accompany each consignment.

Certification

1. The premises of origin is a zoo, wildlife park or other institution, approved, licensed or registered by the government Veterinary Administration to hold non-domestic carnivores.
2. Each animal for export has been continuously resident in the premises of origin for at least 12 months prior to certification or since birth.
3. The premises of origin is under government veterinary supervision, where the health of the animal(s) is monitored so that incursions of disease are identified, and control and/or eradication measures can be applied. A health monitoring program should include microbiological and parasitological tests and necropsies.

4. Bovine tuberculosis

The premises of origin has remained free from bovine tuberculosis for the past 5 years, and free from glanders during the 12 months prior to certification.

5. Canine distemper

No case of canine distemper has been diagnosed in felids at the premises of origin during the 12 months prior to certification.

6. Avian influenza

No case of highly pathogenic avian influenza has been diagnosed in felids at the premises of origin during the 3 months prior to certification.

7. Rabies

- The country of export is free from rabies (as described in Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code).

or

- No case of rabies has been diagnosed in the premises of origin in the 12 months prior to certification and there are effective controls to prevent the entry of rabies vectors.

or

- Each animal was vaccinated against rabies, using an approved inactivated vaccine, not less than 6 months and not more than one year prior to shipment in the case of a primary vaccination, and not more than one year prior to shipment in the case of a booster vaccination, and has been tested by a neutralising antibody titration test with a positive result equivalent to at least 0.5 IU/ml.

[The veterinary certification must indicate the option that applies.]

8. Surra

- The country of export is free from surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*).

or

- No case of surra has been diagnosed in the premises of origin in the 12 months prior to certification, and each animal has been subjected to an antibody enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for *T. evansi* in the 30 days prior to export with negative results.

[The veterinary certification must indicate the option that applies.]

9. *Cytauxzoon felis*

Each bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) that has resided in North America has been tested within 30 days of export by examination of a blood smear for the presence of *Cytauxzoon felis* and by a microfluorometric immunoassay test (FIAX 100, Whittaker MA Bioproducts, Walkersville, Md, USA) for *C. felis* antibodies with negative results.

10. The animal(s) was isolated from other animals not of the same health and residency status for 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export, and remained free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease during that period. During this period the animals were not fed meat of avian origin.

11. Each animal has been individually identified with an International Standards Organisation (ISO) compliant microchip, and the site of implantation and the identification number of each animal is recorded on the veterinary certificate.

12. Each animal was treated for internal parasites (including cestodes) and external parasites (including ticks) with broad spectrum parasiticides during the 30 days prior to export. The dates of treatment, active ingredients and dose rates used are recorded for each animal in the individual health records attached to the veterinary certificate.

13. An Official Veterinarian has inspected each animal within 72 hours prior to export and found it to be healthy and fit to travel.

14. An Official Veterinarian 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.

Post arrival quarantine requirements for the importation of non-domestic felidae

1. In this section, quarantine means the holding of animals in a place and under conditions specified by AQIS pursuant to the *Quarantine Act 1908*.

2. Each animal must undergo 30 days post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) in a quarantine approved premises (QAP) and be inspected by a veterinarian and found free from signs of infectious disease before release from quarantine.

During PAQ, the animal(s) are to be monitored daily for signs of illness and, if necessary, be subjected to a clinical examination. All animals that die in PAQ are to be subject to a post-mortem examination to determine the cause of death. AQIS is to be advised of the post-mortem results within 48 hours.

3. At the completion of PAQ, the animal(s) will be released under quarantine surveillance, into premises approved by the appropriate Australian State or Territory Government for holding the imported species

- . Animals imported from countries not free from bovine spongiform encephalopathy and deemed to be 'at-risk' of developing feline spongiform encephalopathy will be held under quarantine surveillance for life.
- . Other animals free from suspicion of a quarantinable disease will be released unconditionally after six months.

While under quarantine surveillance the animal(s) must be monitored for signs of exotic disease and AQIS is to be notified in the event of an illness within 48 hours. All animals that die while the animals are under quarantine surveillance are to be subject to a post-mortem examination to determine the cause of death. AQIS is to be advised of the post-mortem results within 48 hours. The excreta and carcasses of animals under quarantine surveillance must be disposed of by incineration.

The owner of an animal under quarantine surveillance must notify AQIS of the intended transfer of that animal to another facility.

4. While in PAQ or under surveillance the animal(s) may be subjected to tests or treatments specified by AQIS at the importer's expense. If any animal fails a test or shows evidence of an exotic disease, it may be detained in quarantine, exported at the importer's expense or destroyed.

ROBYN MARTIN
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Animal Biosecurity