

Protocol between the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on quarantine and health requirements for horses to be imported from Australia to China

The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "GACC") and The Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (hereinafter referred to as "DAWR") through friendly negotiations, have agreed to the following quarantine and health requirements for horses to be imported from Australia to China.

Article 1

DAWR shall be responsible for the quarantine and inspection procedures and the issuance of the health certificate for the horses to be exported. DAWR shall provide a model health certificate for GACC's approval before it comes into effect.

The health certificate shall satisfy the following requirements:

1.1 The health certificate will include the following:

1.1.1 Statement that all the requirements of quarantine and inspection stipulated in the protocol has been met.

1.1.2 The sex, age, quantity and chip number of the export horses.

1.1.3 Results of clinical examination, date of sampling and testing, test methods and results, names of approved laboratories.

1.1.4 Names, dosages and manufacturers of the parasiticides, disinfectants and medicines that have been used, dates and places of such treatments

1.1.5 The type of vaccine, manufacturer, the effective period of the vaccines and the date of vaccination, if the horses have been vaccinated.

1.1.6 Date of embarkation, port of departure, the carrier and flight number.

1.1.7 Names and addresses of consignor and consignee.

1.1.8 Date of issuance of the health certificate, typewritten name and signature of the veterinary officer of DAWR.

1.1.9 The official stamp of DAWR.

1.2 There will be one original and at least two copies of the health certificate.

1.3 The health certificates shall be typed in English and Chinese. Handwritten or altered versions are invalid.

1.4 The original health certificates shall accompany the horses and shall arrive China at the same time.

1.5 If the horses arrive at the Chinese port of entry with invalid certificate or without a certificate; the horses will be returned or destroyed by GACC.

Article 2

After having confirmed that the Chinese importer has received the valid import permit for horses issued by GACC, DAWR may start to implement the quarantine and inspection procedure for horses according to the requirements presented on this protocol and the import permit. Each import permit can only allow to import one consignment of horses.

Article 3

GACC shall send animal quarantine officer(s) to the holdings of origin of the horses to be exported, the related quarantine facility and the testing laboratories to cooperate with the Australian veterinarians in carrying out the inspection and quarantine procedures.

Article 4

4.1 Australia officially confirms that the country is free from African horse sickness and glanders.

4.2. Whenever any outbreak of diseases in Article 4.1 occurs in the country, DAWR shall employ the following actions immediately:

4.2.1 Notify GACC with the details of the outbreak within 24 hours, including the name of the disease, name and address of the farm in which the outbreak occurs, number and species of the animals involved in the outbreak, and the control measures that have been taken; and

4.2.2 Refrain from exporting horses to China at once.

Article 5

DAWR confirm that the farms where the exported animals originate from shall meet the following requirements:

5.1 The horses which will be exported to China should be born and fed in Australia, or should be fed in Australia for 6 months before exportation.

5.2 There has been no clinical evidence of epizootic lymphangitis, equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western), Anthrax, Equine infectious Anemia, horse pox, Surra, piroplasmiasis, contagious equine metritis, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, ulcerative lymphangitis Nipah virus encephalitis, Equine Rhinopneumonitis, Equine viral arteritis, Japanese encephalitis, Equine Influenza, Salmonellosis, Dourine, West Nile fever, Horse Mange and Strangles in the holdings of origin of the exported horses for the past 12 months.

5.3 There was no Equine infectious anaemia occurred in the holdings of origin of the exported horses and their surrounding in the range of 8 km radius for the past 12 months.

5.4 There was no clinical case of Hendra disease occurred in the holdings of origin of the exported horses and their surrounding in the range of 200 km radius for the past 2 years.

5.5 The farm is located in the Anthrax free area.

Article 6

Prior to entry the quarantine facility approved by DAWR, on the holdings of origin, the horses to be exported shall be subject to clinical examination one by one and found to be free from clinical signs of contagious and infectious diseases, and shall be tested for the diseases listed in the Annex of this

protocol at the laboratory approved by Australia. Only the horse with negative results can be moved to the quarantine premises.

If any positive horse to Hendra virus is confirmed, all the animals from the same farm should not allowed to export to China.

Article 7

Prior to export to China, the horses which passed the quarantine in the holdings of origin shall be put under quarantine for at least 30 days at a quarantine premise approved by DAWR. During the quarantine period, all horses shall be examined clinically one by one and found to be healthy and free of any sign or evidence of infectious and contagious diseases including Japanese encephalitis. Within 30 days before shipment, all the horses shall be tested according to the Annex of this protocol in the laboratory approved by Australia with negative results. Only the negative horses can be exported to China.

Article 8

During the quarantine period, the exported horses shall be treated against internal and external parasites using effective parasitocides approved by Australia under the supervision of DAWR official veterinarians.

Article 9

During the quarantine period, the horses to be exported shall be treated against Leptospirosis using effective medicine approved by Australia twice at an interval of 14 days.

All the horses shall be vaccinated for Japanese encephalitis with an in activated vaccine.

Article 10

All means of transportation for the horses shall be cleaned and disinfected with disinfectant approved by Australia under the supervision of DAWR official veterinarians.

Article 11

Within 24 hours prior to export, the horses shall be examined and found to be clinically healthy and free from clinical signs of contagious and infectious diseases.

Article 12

The fodder and bedding used during the quarantine and transportation period shall come from non-infected areas regarding equine diseases (OIE-Listed diseases) and meet veterinary hygiene requirements.

Article 13

During the transportation from Australia to China, the horses shall not pass through serious epizootic disease (OIE-Listed diseases) infected areas, and the horses to be exported to China shall not be mixed with other animals, and have no contact with other animals.

Article 14

Upon the agreement of both parties, this protocol can be amended. The amendment to this Protocol shall be made in writing between persons in charge of the competent departments of two sides.

Article 15

This protocol shall enter into force on the date of signing. It shall be terminated six months after the notification from one party is received by the other.

Article 16

This protocol is signed in xxxx (place) on xxxx, 20xx (date), done in duplicate in Chinese and English, equally authentic in two languages.

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| On behalf of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China | On behalf of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of Australia |
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ANNEX:

TESTING REQUIRMENTS FOR HORSES TO BE IMPORTED

FROM AUSTRALIA TO CHINA ON THE FARMS OF ORIGIN

AND THE QUARANTINE PREMISES

| Diseases | | Testing requirements on farm of origin | Testing requirements on quarantine primises |
|----------|--------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Equine infectious anemia | Agar gel immunodiffusion test (AGID) | Agar gel immunodiffusion test (AGID) |
| 2 | Equine Rhinopneumonitis | Serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, the titre of the second test is not more than a four-fold titre of the first test; OR virus isolation test | Serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, the titre of the second test is not more than a four-fold titre of the first test; OR virus isolation test |

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|---|------------------------|---|---|
| 3 | Equine Viral Arteritis | Serum neutralisation test at a serum dilution of 1:4 with negative result; OR serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, the second result which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titers, and the animals shall be subject to virus isolation test or PCR test with negative results. | Serum neutralisation test at a serum dilution of 1:4 with negative result; OR serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, the second result which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titers, and the animals shall be subject to virus isolation test or PCR test with negative results. |
| 4 | Hendra virus | Serum neutralisation test, OR ELISA | Serum neutralisation test, OR ELISA |
| 5 | Equine Influenza | Haemagglutination inhibition test-two tests at interval of 14 days with no rise in titre | Haemagglutination inhibition test-two tests at interval of 14 days with no rise in titre, OR PCR for influenza A virus, two tests with nasopharyngeal samples taken from the horse four to six days after commencement of PEQ and during the four days before leaving the PEQ facility with negative results |