

## CHAPTER 8.10.

### RABIES

Article 8.10.1.

#### **General provisions**

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *incubation period* for rabies shall be 6 months, and the *infective period* in domestic carnivores starts 15 days before the onset of the first clinical signs and ends when the *animal* dies.

Standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 8.10.2.

#### **Rabies free country**

For the purposes of *international trade*, a country may be considered free from rabies when:

1. the disease is notifiable;
2. an effective system of *disease surveillance* is in operation;
3. all regulatory measures for the prevention and control of rabies have been implemented including effective importation procedures;
4. no *case* of indigenously acquired rabies infection has been confirmed in man or any animal species during the past 2 years; however, this status would not be affected by the isolation of Bat Lyssavirus;
5. no imported *case* in carnivores has been confirmed outside a *quarantine station* for the past 6 months.

Article 8.10.3.

#### **Recommendations for importation from rabies free countries**

for domestic mammals, and wild mammals reared under confined conditions

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies on the day of shipment;
2. were kept since birth or for the 6 months prior to shipment in a rabies free country or were imported in conformity with the regulations stipulated in Articles 8.10.5., 8.10.6. or 8.10.7.

Article 8.10.4.

**Recommendations for importation from rabies free countries**

for wild mammals not reared under confined conditions

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies on the day of shipment;
2. have been captured in a rabies free country, at a sufficient distance from any infected country. The distance should be defined according to the species exported and the reservoir species in the infected country.

Article 8.10.5.

**Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with rabies**

for dogs and cats

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies within 48 hours of shipment;

AND EITHER

2. were identified by a permanent mark (such as a microchip) and their identification number shall be stated in the *certificate*; and
3. were vaccinated against rabies:
  - a) not less than 6 months and not more than one year prior to shipment in the case of a primary vaccination, which should have been carried out when the *animals* were at least 3 months old;
  - b) not more than one year prior to shipment in the case of a booster vaccination;
  - c) with an inactivated virus vaccine or with a recombinant vaccine expressing the rabies virus glycoprotein; and
4. were subjected not less than 3 months and not more than 24 months prior to shipment to an antibody test as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with a positive result equivalent to at least 0.5 IU/ml;

OR

5. have not been vaccinated against rabies or do not meet all the conditions set out in points 2, 3 and 4 above; in such cases, the *importing country* may require the placing of the *animals* in a *quarantine station* located on its territory, in conformity with the conditions stipulated in its animal health legislation.

Article 8.10.6.

**Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with rabies**

for domestic ruminants, equines and pigs

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies on the day of shipment;
2. were kept for the 6 months prior to shipment in an *establishment* where separation from wild and feral *animals* was maintained and where no *case* of rabies was reported for at least 12 months prior to shipment.

Article 8.10.7.

### **Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with rabies**

for laboratory reared rodents and lagomorphs, and lagomorphs or wild mammals (other than non-human primates) reared under confined conditions

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies on the day of shipment;
2. were kept since birth, or for the 6 months prior to shipment, in an *establishment* where no *case* of rabies was reported for at least 12 months prior to shipment.

Article 8.10.8.

### **Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with rabies**

for wild mammals not belonging to the orders of primates or carnivores and not reared under confined conditions

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

1. showed no clinical sign of rabies on the day of shipment;
2. were kept in a *quarantine station* for the 6 months prior to shipment.

Article 8.10.9.

### **Recommendations for importation from countries considered infected with rabies**

for frozen semen of dogs

*Veterinary Authorities* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor *animals* showed no clinical sign of rabies during the 15 days following collection of the semen.

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1 [Note: For non-human primates, reference should be made to Chapter 6.11.]