

**ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR HORSES TO BE
EXPORTED TO JAPAN FROM ITALY**

1. The following requirements are applicable to horses to be exported from Italy to Japan (hereinafter referred to as "the exported horses"). These procedures are established on the basis that African horse sickness, equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western), Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, Japanese encephalitis, glanders, dourine and vesicular stomatitis do not exist in Italy.
2. The exported horses have been raised in the premises recognized by the animal health authority of Italy as to be safe from the viewpoint of animal health while the exported horses were in Italy.
3. The exported horses shall be stabled for at least 60 days before the commencement of pre-embarkation quarantine on the premises in which there have been no clinical, microbiological, and serological evidence of equine piroplasmiasis, equine viral arteritis, equine infectious anaemia, equine influenza, equine rhinopneumonitis, surra, equine paratyphoid (*S. Abortusequi* infection), horse pox, epizootic lymphangitis and contagious equine metritis within 3 months prior to shipment to Japan.
4. All horses in the premises where the exported horses reside must be subject to PCR test for Equine piroplasmiasis with negative results within 60 days prior to entering the pre-embarkation quarantine at least 21 days before the inspection of (3) of 7.
5. On the same day as collecting samples for PCR test of 4, all horses in the premises where the exported horses reside must be deticked in the way approved by the animal health authority of Italy.
6. The exported horse shall be isolated in the pre-embarkation-quarantine station with measures to prevent invasion of insect vectors such as ticks and wild animals authorized by the government authorities of Italy as a secured and guaranteed place from an animal health point of view, for at least thirty (30) days before shipment to Japan. After the entry into the pre-embarkation-quarantine station, the exported horse has not been in contact with animals, which are not in the equivalent health status.
7. The exported horse is subject to the following tests with negative results within the period of thirty (30) days prior to shipment to Japan:

- in case of all the exported horses

- (1) Equine infectious anemia: Agar gel-immunodiffusion test

- (2) Equine viral arteritis: as per ANNEX
 - (3) Equine piroplasmiasis (to be carried out at least 21 days after the inspection of 4): Microscopic examination of blood smear samples, PCR test and competitive ELISA or indirect fluorescent antibody test
- in case of horses not for production (including reproduction) also:
- (4) Equine paratyphoid (*Salmonella Abortusequi*): Tube agglutination test (negative at a serum dilution of 1:320)
 - (5) Contagious equine metritis (excluding Gelding and horses aged less than 24 months, which have never been used for mating): Bacterial culture or PCR for the materials from sexual organs.
8. Regarding equine influenza the exported horse do not show any clinical signs before shipment, and:
 - have been vaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer between 21 and 90 days before shipment with a vaccine authorised by the authority of Italy.
 9. The exported horse has to result no signs of any equine infectious diseases and be confirmed free of ticks thorough the careful clinical inspections during the period of item 6.
 10. All the equipment, containers and vehicles used for transportation of the exported horses from the pre-embarkation quarantine to export shall be cleaned and disinfected with an approved disinfectant by the animal health authority of Italy. Also the said horses must be loaded and unloaded in the place with no tick.
 11. The exported horse shall be kept isolated from any other animals during the transportation period in Italy. No other animals shall be permitted the mix-loading on board the ship or the aircraft used for the transportation of the exported horse to Japan.
 12. Feed and litter for the exported horses from the commencement of the pre-embarkation quarantine to the arrival in Japan must be free from agents of animal infectious diseases.
 13. Feed and litter to be used during the transportation period of the exported horse to Japan shall be provided with the same source used for embarkation quarantine. And, no additional feed and bedding shall be provided at any port of call throughout transportation of exported horse to Japan.
 14. The animal health authority of Italy shall be responsible for issuing the health certificate for the exported horse, stating in English each of following items in detail:
 - (1) Each requirement of item 1-3, 5-6 and item 8-13.
 - (2) Dates of sampling, methods and results of the testing for each disease in item 4 and 7.In case that the exported horse is a stallion that was vaccinated against Equine viral arteritis, the

said horse shall satisfy all the conditions in item 2 of ANNEX.

Date of blood sampling immediately prior to the vaccination, kind of vaccine, each date of blood samplings on the premises (1 time) and at pre-embarkation quarantine facilities (2 times), dates and results of the serum neutralization test, dates of blood sampling from two test mares to be subject to covering test immediately prior to entering pre-embarkation quarantine, dates and results of the serum neutralization test of two test mares, date of starting the pre-embarkation period, and each date of blood samplings (2 times) after the last covering, and dates and results of the serum neutralization test of two test mares.

- (3) Dates of vaccination, a product name of vaccine (including a name of the strain) and a producer's name of vaccine for Equine influenza.
- (4) Dates of vaccination, a product name of vaccine (including a name of the strain) and a producer's name of vaccine in case that vaccines other than Equine influenza vaccine were applied to the exported horse
- (5) Name and address of the embarkation quarantine station
- (6) Name and address of the stabling premises of the exported horses
- (7) Embarkation quarantine period with starting and ending dates
- (8) Tattoo number and other features for identification of the exported horse

15. Aside from the above-mentioned items in these Animal Health Requirements, in case that any infectious disease is detected during the quarantine period in Japan, the exported horses can be returned by Animal Quarantine Service in Japan.

ANNEX

1. Non-vaccinated horses

Serum neutralization test in the presence of complement (hereinafter referred to as "the serum neutralization test") negative at serum dilution 1:4.

2. Vaccinated stallion must satisfy all of the following requirements.

(1) The government authorities of exporting country must have confirmed that blood sample was taken from the vaccinated stallion immediately prior to the vaccination and that the serum was subject to the serum neutralization test with negative result at serum dilution 1:4.

(2) Three blood samples must be taken from the vaccinated stallion one time on the premises and two times at pre-embarkation quarantine facility, and these three sera must be at the same time subject to the serum neutralization test with the results of either no significant rise (including fourfold) of these titers or declining titers. In this case, the interval of blood sampling must be about 2 weeks, and the third blood sample must be taken within 10 days prior to the shipment.

(3) In case titers are found maintained in the vaccinated stallion as a result of the serum neutralization test in 2-(2), the said stallion must be subjected to the covering test. Two test mares to be used for the covering test must satisfy the requirements for the horse to be exported to Japan and must be isolated at the same pre-embarkation quarantine facility together with the vaccinated stallion during 30 days prior to the shipment of the vaccinated stallion to Japan, with negative results of the following tests.

[1] Blood samples are taken from the two test mares immediately prior to entering pre-embarkation quarantine facility, and are subjected to the serum neutralization test with negative results at serum dilution 1:4.

[2] During the 30 day pre-embarkation quarantine period each of the two test mares has been covered by the vaccinated stallion twice a day for two days, and on the 14th day and the 28th day respectively after the last covering, blood samples are taken from each of the two test mares and are subjected to the serum neutralization test with negative results at serum dilution 1:4.

[3] The two test mares have been found to be free of signs or symptoms of Equine viral arteritis during the 30 day pre-embarkation quarantine period.