

Export Requirements Notification - Animal Products Act 1999

Standards Branch, Animal and Animal Products Directorate, Ministry for Primary Industries

Ref: AE-AU-09L

Date: 11 March 2013

DOMANIEC.AU 11 MARCH 2013 – CATS AND DOGS TO AUSTRALIA

1. Statutory authority

Pursuant to section 60, section 60A and section 167 of the Animal Products Act 1999 I notify the following:

- (i) the issue under section 60 of the export requirements for cats and dogs to Australia DOMANIEC.AU dated 11 March 2013;
- ii) the revocation and replacement of the export requirements for cats and dogs to Australia DOMANIEC.AUS 1.04.12.

This notice takes effect from 11 March 2013.

Dated at Wellington this 11th day of March 2013.

Signed: Howard Pharo BVSc MScTAD MPP MANZCVSc
Manager Animal Import and Export
Animal and Animal Products Directorate
Standards Branch
Ministry for Primary Industries
(pursuant to delegated authority)

2. Australia requirements

Cats and dogs exported from New Zealand to Australia must comply with the import requirements of Australia listed in this notice as follows:

2.1 Exporter's responsibilities:

- 2.1.1 The animal for export has to be microchipped.

- 2.1.2 The animal for export has resided in Australia and/or New Zealand for the ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled date of export or since birth, and has not been under any quarantine restriction during the sixty (60) days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export.
- 2.1.3 The animal for export will be least eight (8) weeks old at the time of export.
- 2.1.4 In the case of a dog, the dog is not one of the following breeds: Pit Bull Terrier type or American Pit Bull, Japanese Tosa, Fila Brasileiro, Dogo Argentino or Presa Canario.
- 2.1.5 In the case of a cat, the cat is not derived from crossbreeding a domestic cat (*Felis catus*) with a serval cat or with a savannah cat.
- 2.1.6 If the animal is a domestic/non domestic hybrid (e.g. Bengal cat), it is proven to be 5th generation or more away from any pure-bred non-domestic ancestor.
- 2.1.7 If travelling by air, the animal will be transported in accordance with the container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.
- 2.1.8 In the case of a female cat or female dog, the animal will not be more than three (3) weeks pregnant, nor suckling young at the time of export.
- 2.1.9 In the case of a dog it must be noted on the export certificate whether the dog has been continuously resident in New Zealand since birth or the dog has been continuously resident in New Zealand since imported from Australia or the dog has been continuously resident in New Zealand since import from a country other than Australia/ the residency history is unknown.
- 2.1.10 In the case of a dog it must be noted on the export certificate if the dog has been resident in Africa (if known).

The above information must be declared and signed by the owner on the “exporter’s declaration” part of the export certificate. If the owner cannot present the animal for certification (i.e. if the “exporter declaration’s” is to be signed by an exporter or a representative) then an “Owner Statutory Declaration” signed by the owner in the presence of a Justice of the Peace or other person authorised to take a statutory declaration, must be presented to the certifying veterinarian.

2.2 Veterinary certification:

A registered veterinarian approved by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries to export live cats and dogs to Australia must certify the export certificate, after due enquiry with respect to the animal described, that:

2.2.1 He/she has no reason to doubt the “exporter’s declaration” part of the export certificate.

2.2.2 New Zealand is free from rabies.

2.2.3 For dogs only, canine brucellosis (*Brucella canis*), canine ehrlichiosis (*Ehrlichia canis*), leptospirosis (*Leptospira canicola*), and leishmaniasis have not been confirmed in New Zealand during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the scheduled date of export.

2.2.4 In the case of a dog:

EITHER

2.2.4.1 Noted that he/she is satisfied by the “exporter’s declaration’s” that the dog has been continuously resident in New Zealand since birth or since it was imported from Australia;

OR

2.2.4.2 the dog was subjected to an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) for *Ehrlichia canis* with negative test results (at 1:40). Date of sample collection to be recorded, **AND**

2.2.4.3 the dog was tested for *Leishmania infantum* by an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) or an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), with negative test results. Date of sample collection, and test used to be recorded.

2.2.5 In the case of a dog that has resided in Africa, the dog has been treated for *Babesia canis* with imidocarb dipropionate subcutaneously:

EITHER

2.2.5.1 one treatment at 7.5 mg/kg bodyweight

OR

2.2.5.2 two treatments at 6.6 mg/kg bodyweight with an interval of two weeks.

2.2.6 The animal has been treated for external and internal parasites within seventy two (72) hours of the scheduled time of shipment.

2.2.7 He/she has examined the animal for export and scanned and confirmed the microchip within seventy two (72) hours of the scheduled time of shipment and have found it to be fit to travel.

2.3 Any additional health/treatment information must be attached to the export certificate.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

Any term or expression that is defined in the Animal Products Act 1999 and used, but not defined in this document, has the same meaning as in this Act.

Explanatory note

This Export requirement is based on the export certificate for cats and dogs to Australia, dated 1 March 2013 which is based on the import requirements provided by DAFF.

Additional Information on Export Requirements Notification: DOMANIEC.AU dated 11 March 2013

1. Sample export certificate for cats and dogs to Australia can be viewed here:<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/exports/animals/DOMANIED-AUS-sample.pdf>
2. A list of registered veterinarians approved to export cats and dogs to Australia is available from the MPI website at:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/exports/animals/cats-dogs-aus>
3. A list of registered pet exporters can be found on the MPI website at the following link: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/registered-pet-exporters.htm>.
4. Taking Your Dogs and Cats to Australia, which explains the process of exporting dogs and cats to Australia can be found here:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/dog-cat-oz.htm>
5. Owners are advised to contact DAFF if there are concerns that a dog may not be accepted into Australia because of lack of clarity about breed.

DAFF Biosecurity contact details

Port of landing	Phone	Fax
Cairns cdo@daff.gov.au	+61740307852	+61740307843
Brisbane/Coolangatta QldLiveAnimalImports@daff.gov.au	+61732468731	+61732468798
Sydney NSWLiveAnimalImports@daff.gov.au	+61283347434	+61283347430
Melbourne seanimal@daff.gov.au	+61383186700	+61383085071
Adelaide saairfreight@daff.gov.au	+61882016159	+61882016111
Perth wacntroller@daff.gov.au	+61893341555	+61893341668

Australian Customs and Border Protection Services
0061262756666 or by email information@customs.gov.au

6. Link to the owner statutory declaration form:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/exports/animals/owner-statutory-declaration.pdf>
7. Verification of residency in the “veterinary certification” section no longer requires examination of veterinary or council records, but is based on the OWNER’s signed declaration (either on the “exporter’s declaration” section of the certificate or on the owner’s statutory declaration).
8. The owner/exporter should ensure that all documentation is in order, and all import requirements have been met.
9. Regarding microchipping: If there are any tests or treatments that need to be completed as part of the export requirement, then the animal should be microchipped prior to these and the microchip number recorded on all documentation.
10. The owner/exporter/representative is expected to:

- ensure the “exporter’s declaration” is completed in full in front of the certifying veterinarian
 - record cross-breeds with a breed of the dog that it “most resembles”- eg. “cross-breed Labrador” instead of just “cross-breed”
 - notify the certifying veterinarian of any pre-existing health condition of the animal
 - book travel arrangements with the airline for the animal and check if a pet exporter is required.
 - ensure the cage(s) for the animal(s) meets IATA requirements:
<http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live-animals/pets/Pages/index.aspx>
 - notify the clinic of any change in the animal’s health that may impact on its fitness or eligibility for travel between the time of signing the export certificate and departure for Australia
 - pay relevant fees involved in clearing the pet upon arrival in Australia – this is normally collected by the airline (air waybill).
11. Once in Australia, it is recommended that owners contact a local veterinarian and the local authority regarding the Australian requirements for registration, suggested vaccines, etc.
 12. The MPI ‘Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia’ is the document that outlines the requirements which need to be adhered to by the approved vets in order to comply with the export programme. It can be found here:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/dog-cat-oz-review.htm>
 13. Information for Assistance Dogs can be found on part 4.8 of the ‘Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia’:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/exports/animals/dog-cat-oz-review.htm>
 14. If you are planning on returning to New Zealand with your pets in the future, please contact the animal imports group at MPI to obtain information on importing pets back into New Zealand. We strongly suggest that this is done before your pet is exported from New Zealand as not every country can meet the New Zealand import conditions, and so you may not be able to import your pet back into New Zealand. The imports group can be contacted by phone: 04 894 0304 or email:
animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

Additional Notes contained within the export certificate

1. Ensure ALL parts of the certificate are filled out in accordance with the MPI Export Programme for Cats and Dogs to Australia: Section 4.6 – Filling out the Export Certificate. Where possible have the certificate peer reviewed for accuracy by a colleague prior to issuing to the Exporter.
2. The Approved Veterinary Practice must send copies of export certificates within five working days to Export Administration, AsureQuality Limited, Private Bag 3080, Hamilton. (*PLEASE NOTE: copies of the export certificate are NOT to be sent to the Ministry for Primary Industries*)
3. The export certificate replaces that dated 1 April 2012.
4. A Permit to Import is not required.
5. The Exporter must give DAFF (formerly AQIS) at least three days notice of the animal’s arrival in Australia. This should be done by faxing the following information to the DAFF Regional Office located in the state in which your pet will first arrive in Australia:
 - a. date and estimated time of arrival;
 - b. flight number;

- c. air waybill number;
 - d. a short description of the cat/dog including microchip number;
 - e. a contact phone number in New Zealand or Australia;
 - f. the address at which the animal is to reside in Australia;
 - g. whether the dog is a disability assistance dog.
6. In accordance with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), cats derived from a serval cat (*Felis serval*) are not eligible for importation into Australia. This includes cats derived from crossbreeding a domestic cat (*Felis catus*) with a serval cat or with a savannah cat (*Felis catus* x *Felis serval*).
(*Clause 4 of the Exporter declaration*)
 7. Any other domestic/non-domestic animal hybrids (e.g. Bengal cats or wolf crosses) are not eligible for import unless they are proven to be 5 or more generations removed from their pure-bred non-domestic ancestors. Contact the Wildlife Trade and Regulation Section, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities on ph: 0061 2 6274 1900 or email wildlifetrade@environment.gov.au for further information.
 8. The MPI Approval Number is the number given to the MPI Approved Veterinary Practice where this veterinarian is approved to do this certification.
 9. The “exporter’s declaration” must be completed in full at the time of certification and before the animals are examined by the Approved Veterinarian.
 10. The Approved Veterinarian should only sign the Export Certificate once the whole certificate, including the “exporter’s declaration”, has been completed and he/she has examined the animals.
 11. For dogs that have previously been imported from Australia: the export certificate (or a biosecurity clearance record) used for this importation must be attached to this certificate. Exporters can acquire biosecurity clearance records from the MPI risk screening group on 09 909 3030 (option 2, option 1), or email riskscreening@mpi.govt.nz.
 12. For dogs that require *Ehrlichia canis* and *Leishmania infantum* testing, the tests must be done while the dogs are resident in New Zealand. This testing remains valid only if the dog is continuously resident in New Zealand from the sampling date until export to Australia.
 13. Samples for *Ehrlichia canis* and *Leishmania infantum* testing are to be sent to the Animal Health Laboratory (formerly IDC), Wallaceville. For enquiries, please contact the laboratory on 04 894 5600. Copies of the test results must be attached to the certificate.
 14. For dogs that have previously resided in Africa:
Since last in Africa and before entering Australia, the dog was treated for *Babesia canis* as per the export requirements. Where the dog was not treated in New Zealand, a copy of the certification of the treatment (as per the export requirements) must be endorsed (signed and dated) by a MPI Approved Veterinarian and attached to the certificate.
 15. Parasite treatment must be effective against internal and external parasites using drugs registered for that purpose in New Zealand.
 16. Additional health information should include a letter on practice letterhead detailing any health conditions of the animal that could affect its clearance in Australia, any laboratory results (for *Ehrlichia canis* and *Leishmania infantum*) and previous export certificates or biosecurity clearance record (*as necessary*).
 17. Cats and dogs travelling by air must be transported to Australia in accordance with the container requirements specified in the International Air Transport Association

(IATA) Live Animals Regulations. These specify, among other things that the container must:

- a. be strong enough to prevent the animal escaping;
- b. have a total ventilation area of at least 16 percent of the total surface area of the four sides but that these shall be of such size that it is impossible for the animal's nose or paws to protrude outside the container; and
- c. allow the animal to have enough space to turn around normally while standing, to stand and sit erect, and lie in a natural position.

For more details regarding IATA regulations contact your airline. The IATA standards have been developed to prevent escape and injury during transportation. Disability assistance dogs may travel with their handler in the cabin.

18. Documentation must be in order and all import requirements must be met. Any animal arriving in Australia having not met their requirements may be ordered into quarantine or re-shipped to New Zealand at the importer's expense. The original export certificate must accompany the animal.
19. For general enquiries regarding this export certificate, please contact AsureQuality on **0508 00 11 22** or email exports@asurequality.com.

Section 61.A of the Animal Products Act 1999 states that 'The Crown is not liable, and nor is the Director-General or any employee of the Ministry liable, for any loss arising through the refusal or failure of the relevant authority of an overseas market to admit export animal material or animal product to that market'.

