



IMPORTATION OF BIRDS

Conditions for Importation:

The permit is issued subject to the conditions stated below. The veterinary authority of the Virgin Islands reserves the right to render this permit void at any time when in its judgment, such is deemed necessary.

- (1) Bird(s) must be accompanied by a veterinary export health certificate issued by a veterinarian attached to the ***veterinary authority of the country of origin** or export of the birds. Such health certificate shall state the following-
 - (a) There has been no outbreak of New Castle Disease or Avian Influenza (Fowl Plague) in the state or country of origin/export for the last three (3) years.
 - (b) The breeding flock(s) and their parent flock(s) must be registered and/or officially recognized as being in good standing by the Veterinary Authority of the country of origin. That the bird(s) has/have been inspected on the day of exportation and showed no clinical signs of any infectious disease.
 - (c) The bird(s) originate from establishments or flock(s) regularly inspected and certified by the Veterinary Authority of the country of the origin and certified free of Avian Tuberculosis and Fowl Cholera.
 - (d) The bird(s) have originated from the flock(s), aviaries, or establishment(s) tested and certified free of Psittacosis; or have undergone forty-five (45) days Augmentin treatment immediately before entry into the Virgin Islands (otherwise, quarantine and treatment will be carried out upon arrival with associated cost to be borne by owner) or have undergone not less than thirty (30) days quarantine in the country with no clinical manifestation of the disease; or that the state or country is free of clinical Psittacosis in pet birds and domestic fowls.
- (2) **All required conditions must be met and all relevant documents (import permit, veterinary health certificate, vaccination certificate, lab test results, etc.) must be presented at the port of entry to facilitate veterinary clearance and to avoid the otherwise unpleasant, but necessary measures, such as animals being kept in a facility, deportation or euthanasia.**
- (3) **Therefore, the granting of permits for animals to be presented for inspection to enter the Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry.**
 - (a) Bird(s) must be found clinically healthy on arrival.
 - (b) Upon submission of the application, the specified fee schedule will be applied.
- (4) **THE VETERINARY DIVISION MUST BE GIVEN AT LEAST 24 HOURS NOTICE OF ARRIVAL DATE, TIME, AIRLINE/VESSEL AND THE PORT OF ENTRY. THIS WILL FACILITATE UNNECESSARY DELAYS AND AVOID DETENTION OF ANIMALS FOR VETERINARY CLEARANCE AT PORT OF ENTRY.**

***An official health certificate is a document issued and certified by a veterinarian working full time with the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, DEFRA, etc.). The document may be filled out and signed by a licensed veterinarian, but must also be endorsed by a government veterinarian.**

Please be advised, these requirements are subject to change since animal disease status in various countries is dynamic. Therefore, the granting of permission for animals to enter the Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry. It is your responsibility to contact the Veterinary Division, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to confirm these conditions are current.

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