



IMPORTATION OF EQUINE

Conditions for Importation:

1. Animal(s) must be accompanied by a **health certificate** issued by the ***veterinary authority** of the country of origin stating:
 - (a) That animal(s) has/have been in the country of export for at least sixty (60) days preceding export, otherwise, the exact time that animal(s) has/have been in that country must be specified and copies of all relevant documents should be presented at the port of entry.
 - (b) That the horse/donkey/mule is healthy and showing no signs of infectious or contagious disease, and have permanent identification.
 - (c) That the country of origin/export has been free from vesicular diseases for at least twelve (12) months immediately before the date of exportation.
 - (d) So far as it has been possible to determine no case of Dourine (Mal de Coit), Mal de Caderas, Glanders (Farcy), Epizootic Lymphangitis, Ulcerative Lymphangitis, Equine Influenza, Equine Infectious Anaemia, African Horse Sickness, Equine Encephalomyelitis or Mange has occurred in the premises from which the horse(s) originated or at any place within fifteen (15) miles, therefore, during sixty (60) days before the date of exportation that there have been no cases of Rabies on-premises or any place within fifteen (15) miles, therefore, during six (6) months before the date of exportation.
 - (e) That the horse/donkey/mule has/have been inoculated against Equine Rhinopneumonitis and Equine Influenza.
 - (f) That the horse/donkey/ mule has been subjected to the Mallein or Complement Fixation Test for Glanders Disease, the Coggins Test for Equine Infectious Anemia, and Dourine with Negative results within sixty (60) days before export.
 - (g) Animal(s) has/have swabbed on three (3) occasions at intervals of seven (7) days of export for Contagious Equine Metritis with negative results on each occasion.
 - (h) That the horse/donkey/mule has been treated for external and internal parasites within seven (7) days of export.
 - (i) That animal(s) was/were kept in a facility frequently visited by a veterinarian and certified to be of acceptable standards for at least six (6) months immediately preceding importation to the Territory.
- (2) Animal(s) must be clinically healthy on arrival.
- (3) **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.**
- (4) **The Veterinary Division must be given at least 24 hours notice of confirmed arrival date, time, airline/vessel and the port of entry. This will facilitate unnecessary delays and avoid detention of animal(s) for veterinary clearance at the port of entry. Therefore, the granting of permits for animals to be presented for inspection to enter the Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry.**
- (5) Upon submission of the application, the specified fee schedule will be applied.
- (6) Animal(s) must be kept in confinement (carrier) until granted into the country. Failure to do so can cause entry of the animal(s) being denied.

Contact Information:

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Government of the Virgin Islands
Paraquita Bay
Tortola, VG 1120
Virgin Islands

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***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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