



**VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE  
EXPORT OF HORSE SEMEN (FRESH OR FROZEN) TO NEW ZEALAND**

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** CANADA

**ISSUING AUTHORITY:** CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY

**SECTION I - ORIGIN**

i) **Name of owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

ii) **Name of exporter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

iii) **Name of approved semen collection center:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

iv) **Name of premises of origin:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II - DESTINATION**

i) **Name of importer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION III - VETERINARY CERTIFICATE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Canadian government certify, after due enquiry, with respect to the donor stallions and semen identified in this Veterinary Health Certificate, that:

**1 Country/region health status**

1.1 The donor stallions were resident continuously for at least six (6) months immediately prior to semen collection in either Canada and/or the USA, which are free of African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, glanders and dourine, which are compulsory notifiable diseases.

**2 Establishment of origin**

2.1 The donor stallions were resident continuously for the period specified in brackets, immediately prior to semen collection, on premises in Canada in which no case of the following diseases or any other notifiable disease of equines has occurred.

- equine viral arteritis (21 days)
- vesicular stomatitis (30 days)
- equine infectious anaemia (90 days)
- *Salmonella abortus-equi* (90 days)

2.2 During the 30 days immediately prior to semen collection, the donor stallions were resident on premises in Canada where equine viral arteritis (EVA) shedder stallions are not known to have been present.

**3 Donor males and semen collection center**

3.1 The donor stallions were resident at the time of collection on a semen collection center approved by a CFIA Official Veterinarian according to the present section.

Date of last inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

3.2 The centre may be located on an established equine enterprise. In that case, the entire premises should meet the health status requirements noted at 2.1 above. For the duration of the period of collection of semen for export to New Zealand, contact between horses on the centre and other equines not of equivalent health status must be prevented.

3.3 The centre must be surrounded by two secure stock-proof fences at least 5 metres apart except where the wall of a building forms part of the perimeter.

- 3.4 Stables on the centre are so constructed that they can be cleaned and disinfected.
- 3.5 The centre have facilities for veterinary examination of animals and the collection of samples, and facilities for the segregation and isolation of sick animals.
- 3.6 Semen is processed in a room or building or mobile laboratory set aside for that purpose, separate from areas where animals are housed and where semen is collected. All working surfaces in this facility are cleaned and disinfected before each use.
- 3.7 The centre is approved by CFIA to collect semen for export and is under the supervision of a centre veterinarian authorised by CFIA. The centre, as well as the place where the semen is processed, is inspected at 6 monthly intervals by an Official Veterinarian.
- 3.8 Prior to each period of collection of semen for export to New Zealand, a centre veterinarian authorised by CFIA verifies that all equipment and working surfaces likely to come into contact with semen for export or personnel handling semen have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
- 3.9 All measures described in this zoosanitary certification, including identification of donor stallion and semen, disease testing, semen collection, processing and storage is supervised by a centre veterinarian authorised by an Official Veterinarian.
- 3.10 Liners used in artificial vaginas during the collection process are:\*
- Either:** new disposal liners on each occasion;
- or:** re-usable rubber liners dedicated to individual stallions, which have been thoroughly cleaned and dried between each use.
- 3.11 Personnel collecting and processing semen are trained in, and practice, proper disinfection procedures and hygiene techniques.
- 3.12 Semen is stored in a facility approved by CFIA and under the direct supervision of the centre veterinarian.
- 3.13 Any health problems affecting horses or other stock on the centre during the collection period must be promptly reported to the Official Veterinarian, who shall investigate in order to rule out infectious diseases of concern during trade in equine semen.
- 3.14 Records detailing identification of all horses on the centre, their origins, dates of entry, dates and results of disease tests or investigations, treatments either therapeutic or prophylactic, any departures from good health and condition, inspection visits by the Official Veterinarian, and any other information relevant to each animal's health status while resident on the centre are kept by the operator and/or the export agent.
- 3.15 Unauthorised access to the centre is prevented. All visitor entries are recorded.

**4 Semen collection**

- 4.1 On the day(s) of collection of semen, the donor stallions were free from any evidence of infectious diseases.
- 4.2 All products of animal origin, other than egg yolk, used in the collection, processing and storage of the horse semen were certified as either sterile preparations or as having been screened for adventitious viruses, including tests for cytopathology in appropriate cell cultures, for haemagglutinating and haemadsorbent viruses, and for pestiviruses by immunoperoxidase or immunofluorescence techniques, with negative results in each case.
- 4.3 All biological products have been handled in a manner that ensures their sterility was maintained.
- 4.4 An effective combination of antibiotics was added to the semen extender/diluent. The combination must produce an effect at least equivalent to the following:
- 500 IU per ml streptomycin; or  
500 IU per ml penicillin; or  
150 µg per ml lincomycin; or  
300 µg per ml spectinomycin.
- Names and concentrations of antibiotics included in semen diluent: \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 4.5 Immediately after the addition of the antibiotics, the diluted semen was kept at a temperature of at least 15° C for a period of not less than 45 minutes. The semen must be in straws, ampoules or other sealed containers. Semen in pellets is not acceptable.

**5 Testing** (see Table 1, page 5 for dates of sampling)

5.1 Equine infectious anaemia (EIA): The donor stallions were subjected to the agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test or competitive-ELISA for EIA not less than 21 days after entry onto the semen collection centre, with negative results

5.2 Equine viral arteritis (EVA):\*

**Either** 5.2.1 The donor stallion were subjected to a serum neutralisation (SN) test for EVA not less than 21 days after entering the semen collection centre which demonstrated a negative result.

**or** 5.2.2 The donor stallions were vaccinated against EVA under official veterinary control and have been re-vaccinated at regular intervals, at least annually.

N.B. Approved programs for initial vaccination are as follows:

- a) vaccination on the day a blood sample was taken which was subjected to the SN test with a negative result, or
- b) vaccination during a period of isolation of not more than 15 days, commencing on the day a blood sample was taken which was subjected to the SN test with a negative result, or
- c) vaccination when the stallion was at an age of 180 to 270 days during a period of isolation, during which two blood samples taken at least 10 days apart were subjected to the SN test and demonstrated a negative, stable or declining antibody titre.

**or** 5.2.3 For donor stallions seropositive to EVA

5.2.3.1 Donor stallions seropositive to EVA were tested during the twelve (12) months prior to export and were found not to be semen carriers.

Test used: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of sampling: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved methods for determining semen carriers are as follows:

- a) test mating to two mares which were subjected to SN tests with negative results on two blood samples, one collected at the time of test mating and the other 28 days after mating, **or**
- b) virus isolation on cell culture carried out on the sperm rich fraction of two separate semen samples with negative results.

And 5.2.3.2 **DECLARATION:** I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned center veterinarian certifies, after due inquiry of the owner of the horse identified in Table 1 of this certificate and having examined relevant records to the horse's breeding life, that:

- i) there is no evidence to indicate that he has shed equine arteritis virus in his semen at any time AND;
- ii) there is no evidence to indicate that he has ever been treated with gonadotropin-releasing hormone antagonist.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of CFIA authorised centre veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**5.3 Taylorella equigenitalis and Taylorella asinigenitalis**

5.3.1 During the breeding season in which the semen for export is collected, the donor stallion has been tested for both the presence of both these bacterial species by swabbing and culture on two occasions, with a negative result in each case. The swabs must be taken at 5-7 day intervals in the following sites: the prepuce, the urethral sinus and the fossa glandis (including its diverticulum).

**Note:** Since both these identical looking bacterial species have the same culture requirements, a negative test for Taylorella equigenitalis is sufficient to declare the animal free of Taylorella asinigenitalis as well.

5.3.2 If testing for these agents occurred prior to the collection of semen for export, since the date of first swabbing until the time of collection for export, the donor stallion has not been naturally mated, except to mares of equivalent health status.

5.4 All testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the CFIA to conduct export testing.

**6 Storage and transport**

- 6.1 All straws are clearly marked with the identification of the donor stallion and the date of semen collection. If a code is used for this information, its decipher accompanies the consignment.
- 6.2 The semen was stored only with other semen or embryos that were eligible for export to New Zealand. The containers were held in a CFIA approved storage facility placed under the direct supervision of the centre veterinarian until export.
- 6.3 The semen was placed in new or disinfected transport containers. For frozen semen, the containers were filled with fresh (previously unused) liquid nitrogen.  
 Method of disinfection (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of disinfection (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- 6.4 Prior to export, the container in which the semen is to be transported was sealed by an Official Veterinarian, using seals bearing the marks: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Delete as appropriate

SAMPLE

**TABLE 1: DONOR AND SEMEN INFORMATION:** The animals described below were found negative to the tests mentioned to the dates shown.

Donor ID	Breed	Registration number (If applicable)	Date of birth	Collection date	Date of entry into AI centre	Number of straws/ ampoules	Straws/ ampoules identification	Dates of sampling				
								EIA (AGID or c-Elisa test)*	EVA (SN test)	EVA (Vaccination dates)	T. equigenitalis T. asinigenitalis (culture)	
											Date 1	Date 2

\* Delete as appropriate

Total number of straws/ampoules in consignment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signature of authorised centre veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorised centre veterinarian (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Official Export Stamp Signature of Official Veterinary Officer  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Government of Canada

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Official Veterinary Officer (Printed)

