

July 1997

Import Health Requirements of Norway for
Equine Semen Exported from the United States

1. CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Each certificate shall provide information concerning a single horse, its identity, breed and age.

Each shipment of semen shall be accompanied by an original certificate from an authorized veterinarian in the country of origin certifying, that the stallion has not been present in any country other than the production country, Norway or any other country with a health status superior to that of the US, for a minimum period of 6 months prior to the collection of the semen.

2. CERTIFICATE OF DISEASE STATUS IN STATE OF ORIGIN AND AT STUD FARM/STABLE

Each certificate shall provide information concerning a single horse, its identity, breed and age.

Each shipment of semen shall be accompanied by an original certificate from an authorized veterinarian in the country of origin certifying that:

- a. the state of origin has been free of the following diseases for at least 12 months prior to and three weeks after collection of the semen: African horse sickness, vesicular stomatitis, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, glanders and dourine.
- b. the stallion has not been present at a stud farm/stable where, in the course of the last 12 months prior to and three weeks after collection of the semen, the following diseases have been detected: contagious equine metritis - CEM, infectious viral arteritis - EVA, Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis - EEE & WEE, infectious anemia and equine viral rhinopneumonitis, and that
- c. the stallion has not been present at a stud farm/stable where, in the course of the last three months prior to or the three weeks after collection of the semen, the following have occurred: equine influenza, strangles.

3. HEALTH CERTIFICATE - STALLION AND STALLION SEMEN

Each certificate shall provide information concerning a single horse, its identity, breed and age.

Each shipment of semen shall be accompanied by an official certificate from an authorized veterinarian in the country of export certifying that:

- a. at the time the semen was collected, the stallion exhibited no signs of contagious disease, and was not suspected of being capable of transmitting a contagious disease,
- b. a blood specimen from the stallion, taken over the course of the last 30 days prior to the collection of the semen, underwent serological evaluation (Coggin's test) for infectious anemia with negative results,
- c. a blood specimen from the stallion, taken over the course of the last 30 days prior to the collection of the semen, underwent serological evaluation (neutralization test) for infectious viral arteritis with negative results. Semen from seropositive stallions shall be tested for EVA virus with negative results,
- d. two blood specimens from the stallion - one taken in the course of the last 30 days before collection of the semen and the other taken in the course of the last 30 days after the collection - have undergone serological evaluation (complement fixation test) for Eastern and Western encephalitis - EEE and WEE - with negative results. If the latter specimen is positive, the former must exhibit an equally high titer. Both tests must be negative for non-vaccinated horses.
- e. the stallion shall have undergone bacteriological evaluation for contagious equine metritis (CEM) with negative results. Two swab specimens must be taken with a one-week interval immediately before collection of the semen begins, and another in the course of 30 days after the semen is collected, and that
- f. the stallion has not been used to service a mare naturally from 14 days prior to the taking of the specimen for the first CEM test and up until the time at which the collection of the semen was completed. The stallion may have no direct contact with other horses after collection of the CEM specimens has begun.

All specimens shall be analyzed by an officially approved laboratory.

The original laboratory reports must be included.

4. REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING COLLECTION AND HANDLING OF SEMEN

- a. Disposable equipment shall be used to collect the semen, or equipment that has been cleaned and disinfected between each collection. An artificial vagina must be used.

- b. The semen shall be handled in such a way that pathogens cannot be transferred.
- c. The semen shall be collected, frozen and labeled by the veterinarian in charge, or by a person directly under his/her control, so that the provenance of the semen can be documented at all times.
- d. The semen shall be accompanied by a certificate from an authorized veterinarian in the country of origin certifying that, if egg yolk is added, the eggs used were produced by a producer located at the center of an area (with a radius of at least 20 km) that is free of all strains of Newcastle disease virus.
- e. The semen shall be accompanied by a certificate from the veterinarian for said producer specifying the types of antibiotics added and the final concentration of said added antibiotics.

5. IDENTIFICATION

The semen shall be labeled and sealed by the veterinarian in charge at the stud farm in question, and the seal shall conform with that used on the accompanying certificates. The label shall state that the semen was obtained from the stallion identified in the health certificates per Items 2 and 3.

6. TRANSPORT AND BORDER INSPECTION

The semen shall be transported directly from the country where it was produced to Norway.

Upon arrival in Norway, the shipment and import papers shall be checked by a border veterinarian. The border veterinarian shall be informed of the time when importation is to take place by no later than 24 hours prior to the estimated arrival time.

The following documentation shall be presented to the customs authorities and the border veterinarian for inspection:

- a. import permit from the Norwegian Animal Health Inspectorate.
- b. certificates as described under Items 1, 2, 3, 4 e and, if applicable 4 d, and
- c. original laboratory reports.

If any of the conditions per Items 1 - 5 are not fulfilled, the shipment may be refused or ordered destroyed.