

September 1988

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF FRANCE FOR
CAPRINE EMBRYOS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

The embryos must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of both the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the embryos to be exported. Additional information shall include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States has been free of foot-and-mouth disease, Rift Valley fever, Nairobi disease, rinderpest, sheep pox, goat pox, and small ruminant plague during the 12 months prior to the dates of collection of the embryos.
2. The embryos in this shipment are the progeny of dams and sires that originated from herds that have been free of evidence of the following diseases during the 6 months prior to embryo collection:

Paratuberculous enteritis (paratuberculosis), listeriosis, leptospirosis, scabies, tuberculosis, brucellosis (including brucella abortus, brucella melitensis and brucella ovis), goat arthroencephalitis syndrome (CAEV), contagious agalactia (including m. agalactiae, m. capricolum, m. mycoides of the large flock variety), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, contagious goat pleuropneumonia, corynebacterium ovis infection, maedi-visna, and scrapie.

3. The donor animals have resided in the United States for more than 6 months.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

- A. All donor animals were isolated in an approved embryo collection center for at least 35 days prior to embryo collection and tested negative to the following diseases:
 1. Bluetongue: Complement fixation (CF) test
 2. Brucella melitensis: Standard tube agglutination test (less than 50 IU)
 3. Brucella ovis: CF test
 4. Tuberculosis: Intradermal caudal fold test with bovine PPD tuberculin.
 5. Q fever: CF test
 6. Caprine arthritis encephalitis: AGID
 7. Enzootic abortion (chlamydiosis): CF test
- B. After embryo collection, all donor animals remained in isolation in an approved embryo collection center for at least 40 days and after 40 days they tested negative to the following diseases:

1. Bluetongue: CF test
2. Q fever: CF test
3. Enzootic abortion (chlamydiosis): CF test

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The following additional information must be indicated on the certificate:

1. The name and address of the organization collecting and freezing the embryos.
2. The identification number of donor dams and sires and registration number if applicable.
3. The name and address of the consignee.
4. The embryos' identification numbers, number of days after insemination that the embryos were collected, and the type and markings of the container.

OTHER INFORMATION

As far as interpretation of the results of these tests are concerned (in the case of bluetongue, Q fever, and enzootic abortion) there was no increase in the concentration between the first and second tests (threshold: double dilution). The concentrations of the first tests are compatible with those that can be connected with either a vaccination or a past infection (and not with convalescence).

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF A CAPRINE EMBRYO COLLECTION CENTER FOR FRANCE

CONSTRUCTION AND LOCATION

The embryo collection center is approved by and under the supervision of an accredited veterinarian approved by USDA.

1. The embryo collection center must include a separate, enclosed building of sound, permanent construction, capable of being effectively cleaned and disinfected for use in collecting and processing the embryos.
2. It must not be possible for other animals to approach within 10 feet of the isolation premises while they are in use. If necessary, double fencing may be used.
3. An adequate supply of water must be available at all times for the isolated animals and for cleaning purposes.
4. Equipment and utensils used for feeding, grooming, and cleaning must be used only in the isolation premises during the isolation period.
5. Protective clothing to be used exclusively in the isolation premises must be available at the entrance to the isolation premises.
6. All drainage must be away from the isolation premises.

PROCEDURES

1. Before use, the enclosed part of the isolation premises and all fixed

and movable equipment and utensils used for embryo collection, processing, and storage must be disinfected using a disinfectant approved by the U.S. Federal veterinary authorities.

2. Isolated animals must have no contact with any other animals during the isolation period.
3. The isolation period for all isolated animals shall be deemed to start from the time of entry of the last animal.
4. No person may enter the isolation premises unless specifically authorized by the supervising veterinarian.
5. When no attendants are on duty, the premises must be securely locked to prevent the entry of unauthorized persons.
6. The facility must have separate storage containers and equipment to collect and wash the embryos as follows:

COLLECTION/WASHING REQUIREMENTS

1. On the day of collection of the embryos, all animals in the embryo collection center must be free of clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases transmissible to goats.
2. The embryos must not be stored with or have contact with other embryos which do not have the same health status.
3. The collection, treatment, and storage of the embryos must be performed according to the IETS manual (Manual of the International Embryo Transfer Society) recognized by the International Board of Epizootics and under the supervision of an accredited veterinarian approved by USDA.
4. The embryos must be washed in 10 changes of embryo culture media. The pipettes used to transfer the embryos between washes must be changed after each of the 10 transfers, and each wash constitutes a hundred-fold dilution of the previous wash.
5. All the biological products used in the embryo collection process must meet the sanitary requirements of the IETS manual.
6. A microscopic examination (X 50) of the embryos must be done in order to ensure that there was no damage to their membranes before and after washing.
7. The embryos must be identified and placed in a sterilized and sealed container.