

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
FOR BOVINE EMBRYOS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

1. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall be responsible for the quarantine and inspection procedures and the issuance of health certificates for the embryos exported.
2. The Chinese side shall send veterinarians to the embryo transfer (ET) farms or centers for production of embryos for export and to the related testing laboratories to cooperate with USDA veterinarians in conducting quarantine and inspections, or may approve ET farms or centers for continuous collection of embryos which will be supervised by USDA.
3. The United States is officially recognized free from foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, lumpy skin disease.
4. The donor cows of embryos for export shall meet the following conditions:
  - 4.1 The sites for collection of embryos shall be located on farms or E.T. centers:
    - (a) Where there has been no clinical evidence of bluetongue in any ruminants on the E.T. center or farm where the donor is located.
    - (b) Where no bluetongue virus has been isolated from any ruminant in the past 12 months. The donor cows of the export embryos shall have been resident at the E.T. centers/farms for the past 12 months.
  - 4.2 The donor cows shall be from farms/E.T. centers recognized by USDA as free of tuberculosis and brucellosis.
  - 4.3 The donor cows shall be from farms where, in the past 2 years, there has been no clinical signs of bovine virus diarrhea, chlamydiosis, campylobacteriosis, trichomoniasis, paratuberculosis and IBR.
  - 4.4 Within the 21-60 days after collection of embryos for export, the donor cows shall be subjected to tests for the following diseases with negative results:
    - 4.4.1 Tuberculosis: Intradermal caudal fold test using bovine PPD tuberculin with no reaction.
    - 4.4.2 Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease/Bluetongue: AGID test
    - 4.4.3 Campylobacteriosis: Culture of vaginal mucus. (Only required for cows that have a history of natural breeding.)
    - 4.4.4 Trichomoniasis: Culture of vaginal mucus. (Only required for cows that have a history of natural breeding.)
    - 4.4.5 Leptospirosis: Microtiter-agglutination test for serotypes, L. pomona, L. canicola, L. grippotyphosa, L. hardjo, and L. icterohaemorrhagiae at 1:400 dilution with negative results.
  - 4.5 Blood samples taken from donor cows on the day of collection of embryos shall be examined for BVD virus in blood serum by two passages (at least 7 days each) on tissue culture with cultures checked by immunofluorescence.

- 4.6 No clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease were observed in the donor cow during the 30 days prior to and during the 30 days after the collection of embryos for export.
- 4.7 the semen used to inseminate donor cows shall meet the requirements of the PRC for importation.
- \*1 [The semen used for embryo production can be collected from a bull born in a state not listed in item 4.2 of the bovine semen protocol if: (1) it was negative to an ELISA test and virus isolation test (from blood) for bluetongue prior to movement to an AI center in a state listed in item 4.2; and (2) it was tested again as in (1) above, 45 days after moving to the AI center. The other requirements for bluetongue in item 8 of the semen protocol relative to bluetongue shall be met].
- \*2 [The semen used for embryo production can be collected from a bull in an AI center which is not completely seronegative for IBR if : (1) the seropositive bulls for IBR in the AI center are negative for IBR by virus isolation test (from blood), and; (2) the donor bulls have been negative for IBR (serum neutralization test at 1:2 dilution) on the regular semiannual tests of all animals and the donor bulls are negative for IBR (SN test at 1:2 dilution) 21-60 days after collection of semen.
5. The collection and processing of embryos for export shall be done under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian in accordance with the guidelines of the International Embryo Transfer Society. (IETS).
6. Within 24 hours prior to collection of embryos for export, the donor cows and all other cattle, sheep or goats on the premises shall be found to be healthy and free from signs of infectious or contagious disease by clinical examination of a USDA accredited veterinarian.
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7. All the embryos must be transferred through 5 washes of phosphate buffered saline containing bovine serum albumin, then through 2 washes of .25% trypsin, Ph 7.6-7.8, for a total time in trypsin of 60-90 seconds and finally, through 5 washes that contain serum instead of bovine serum albumen. Each of the washes must be a 100-fold dilution of the previous one, and a fresh sterile pipette shall be used for each of the transfers.
8. Only embryos from the same donors can be washed and treated together. After the last wash, each embryo must be examined microscopically to ensure that its zona-pellucida is intact and free from any adherent material.
9. The embryos for export shall be bottled and sealed. The vials must be permanently marked and coded under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian. The accompanying health certificate shall clearly identify the embryos along with the details of tests for the donor cows and bulls.
10. The frozen embryos for export shall be kept under supervision of the USDA accredited veterinarian until all the tests and examinations under this protocol have been completed.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON ANIMAL AND ANIMAL GENETIC  
MATERIAL EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

During meetings held in Washington, D.C., June 29-30, 1995, representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China and of the United States Department of Agriculture reached agreement on the exportation of animal and animal genetic material exported from the United States to the People's Republic of China on the basis of mutual cooperation and interest as follows:

1. Before initiation of any procedures for any animal genetic material (such as quarantining and testing), in accordance with the signed protocols, the Chinese importer must have been given and **Import Permit** from the Administration of Animal and Plant Quarantine of the of the People's Republic of China. Each **Import Permit** can be used for only 1 shipment.
2. Each shipment of animal and animal genetic material shall be done within the time frames indicated, through the ports of entry indicated, and via the transportation routing indicated on the **Import Permit**.

On November 18, 2004 at the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S.-China Animal Health Technical Bilateral Meeting held in Honolulu, HI USDA APHIS and AQSIQ's Department for Supervision on Animal and Plant Quarantine agreed to amend the current import protocols for U.S.-origin bovine semen and bovine embryos.

BSE-related references in Article 3 of the April 1999 bovine embryos protocol have been removed. The following statements have been added in lieu of BSE-related references in Article 3.

1. Embryos collection centers are located in the areas which are within the U.S. national surveillance program which operates in accordance with OIE guidelines as related to prevention, control and eradication of BSE.
2. There have been no suspected or confirmed cases of BSE in the embryos collection centers.
3. Donor animals were born after implementation of the August 1997 feed ban and have not been fed any materials prohibited under the ban.
4. Donor animals can be imported into the United States from countries with equivalent or lower BSE risk levels and an equivalent feed bans. Imported donor animals were born after the feed ban was implemented in the country-of-origin. The birth farms of the imported donor animal have had no suspected or confirmed cases of BSE for the previous six (6) years.
5. Donor animals are not the progeny or birth cohorts of animals suspected or confirmed to be BSE positive.