



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary
Services

National Center for
Import/ Export

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Subject: BSE Minimal-Risk Regions and the Importation of Live Animals

To: Accredited Veterinarians or Other Interested Parties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) published a final rule on January 4, 2005, entitled "Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Minimal-Risk Regions and Importation of Commodities." As a result of this publication, regulations are now in place to govern the importation of certain live cattle, bison, sheep, and goats into the United States from Canada – including cattle, bison, sheep, and goats that are transported directly to a single feedlot and then to slaughter. The final rule is effective immediately.

There are several activities in the final rule can only be performed by an accredited veterinarian or a Federal or State representative. These activities are as follows:

1) Removal of the government seals on vehicles transporting feeder cattle, bison, sheep, or goats from the APHIS port of entry (POE) to a feedlot and completion of VS Form 17-130, "Ruminants Imported to Designated/Approved Feedlots." This form is initiated at the POE by the APHIS port veterinarian to allow feeder cattle, bison, sheep, or goats to be transported directly to a single feedlot (See Attachment A). As indicated on VS Form 17-130, the accredited veterinarian or his/her designee must break the seals, complete items #13 to 18, and return VS Form 17-130 to the POE. The final rule allows the breaking of seals at the feedlot to be performed a State or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) representative, an accredited veterinarian, or his/her designee (i.e., an employee of the accredited veterinarian).

2) Issuance of VS Form 1-27 "Permit for Movement of Restricted Animals." General instructions for the completion of this form can be found in Veterinary Services Memorandum No. 575.14 (See Attachment B). In order to certify a shipment of Canadian cattle, bison, sheep, or goats for movement to slaughter, the accredited veterinarian must review the Canadian health certificates and determine that the cattle or bison are less than 30 months of age, and the sheep or goats are less than 12 months of age. The VS Form 1-27 cannot be issued by a designee of the accredited veterinarian.

The vehicle must be sealed, and the seal numbers must be listed under item 15 on VS Form 1-27. Only Canadian animals can be shipped in the sealed vehicle. These Canadian animals will be branded and cannot be mixed with U.S. animals going to slaughter. A copy of the Canadian health certificates must be attached to VS Form 1-27. Because each VS Form 1-27 only has space to include sixteen ear tag numbers, it may be necessary to complete more than one VS Form 1-27 per shipment.



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The shipment must also be accompanied by a copy of the VS Form 17-130 that was issued by the port veterinarian when the animals were imported. This form will be important as a verification that the animals in the shipment were not moved from their destination at import to another location before going directly to slaughter.

These activities are critical in the safeguarding of animal health and the safety of America's food supply. Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have further questions about these requirements please contact the Area Veterinarian in Charge in your State. Additional information can also be accessed on our website at www.aphis.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee Ann Thomas, D.V.M., M.S.", written in dark ink.

Lee Ann Thomas, D.V.M., M.S.

Director, Animals, Organisms and Vectors, and Select Agents
National Center for Import-Export
Technical Trade Services

Enclosures

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-X XXX. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 2 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB CONTROL NO.: 0579-XXXX

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE RUMINANTS IMPORTED TO DESIGNATED/APPROVED FEEDLOTS	1. PORT OF ENTRY
Port Veterinarian - Complete #1 through 12 and attach copy of health certification. Distribute copies as indicated below.	2. ENTRY DATE
Accredited Veterinarian or other designated individual at the feedlot - complete #13-18 and return original to Port Veterinarian (see #12) within 14 days of receipt of the animals. The animals identified below (official animal identification is on the attached Health Certificate) were imported in accordance with USDA, APHIS regulations for shipment to feedlots and are under your supervision. These animals must remain at this feedlot (see # 9) and sent to slaughter before they are 30 months of age (for cattle, bison) or 12 months of age (for sheep, goats) in a sealed vehicle using VS Form 1-27. Official animal identification cannot be removed from these animals.	
3. TO: (Accredited Veterinarian or other designated individual at feedlot (Address, Include Phone Number and Zip Code)) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; margin: 5px 0;"></div>	

4. NUMBER OF ANIMALS	5. SPECIES OF ANIMALS	6. TRUCK (Trailer) LICENSE NUMBER
7. SEAL NUMBERS		8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNOR (Include Phone Number and Zip Code)
9. NAME AND ADDRESS OF FEEDLOT (Include Phone Number and Zip Code)		
10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE (Include Phone Number and Zip Code)		

11. SIGNATURE OF PORT VETERINARIAN

12. PORT VETERINARIAN (Include Phone Number and Zip Code)

← Return the completed original to

RECEIPT OF SHIPMENT

This is to certify that, except as noted in #16, all animals identified above and on the attached health certificate were received and will remain at the location in #9 until sent to slaughter. This shipment must be sealed when it arrives at this feedlot. If any official seals are broken or missing, I will immediately contact the Port Veterinarian. Identification of dead animals must be included in #16.

13. DATE RECEIVED	14. a. I observed that all seals listed in #7 were present and intact. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No b. If any listed seals are missing or broken the Port Veterinarian was contacted within 24 hours of receipt. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
15. NAME AND ADDRESS OF FEEDLOT (Include Phone Number and Zip Code)	16. REMARKS
17. NAME OF DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL (Print)	18. SIGNATURE OF DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL

VS FORM 17-130 (DEC 2004)

COPY DISTRIBUTIONS:

- ORIGINAL: To accompany shipment to feedlot
- COPY: Retained by port

- COPY: Retained by feedlot
- COPY: AVIC
- COPY: State Veterinarian

December 8, 1988

VETERINARY SERVICES MEMORANDUM NO. 575.14

Subject: VS Form 1-27

To: Directors, VS Regions

Area Veterinarians in Charge, VS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide instructions for the use of the "Permit For Movement of Restricted Animals" (VS Form 1-27, dated December 1980.) These instructions should be distributed to all who have the responsibility for the issuance of the VS Form 1-27. This memorandum replaces VS No. Memorandum 575.14 dated November 21, 1983, which should be discarded.

II. GENERAL

In the past, the VS Form 1-27 has been used to allow only the transport of restricted animals which require special handling because of disease or exposure thereto. In addition to being used for such animals, the VS Form 1-27 will now serve as shipping permit for poultry and poultry products which are restricted because of disease or exposure thereto. The form is to be used for shipments of any animals, poultry, and poultry products which are subject to Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations. Since poultry and poultry products are not currently included in the title on the form, whenever the form is used for such shipments, the title should be modified (pen and ink change) to indicate same.

VS Form 1-27 is printed in pads of 24 serially numbered sets, with general instruction on the cover of each pad. Detailed instructions applicable to the particular disease status of concern are found in program instructions of that specific disease.

III. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Item 1 - Name and address of the person who is shipping the animals, poultry, or poultry products. If animals are being reconsigned from a market, the name and address of the market will not appear here unless the market has purchased the animals and is in fact the owner/shipper.

Item 2 - The name and address of the person or firm to whom the shipment is consigned.

Item 3 - Self-explanatory

Item 4 - Name and address of the person who owned the animals or poultry at the time the disease or exposure status was determined. If previously permitted animals are included in the shipment, they should be listed in item 17 and the identification number from the original permit which authorized them to move to the current location should be written in the "Other Identification" column.

Items 5 and 6 - Self-explanatory

Item 7 - When poultry products are being shipped, write in "other."

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Item 8 - Self-explanatory.

Item 9 - Show the number of known reactors and/or exposed animals. Under "Other" (Specify) show the numbers of calves identified under Part 78, Sub-part B, Section 78.8(c)(1) as "Not Restricted."

Item 10 - Indicate "infected," "exposed," "suspect," etc., at origin. Write N/A for combined lots being reconsigned from a market.

Item 11 - List the status of the area as it applies to the disease condition listed in item 8.

Item 12 - Self-explanatory for animals and poultry. If poultry products, write in the number of cases, boxes, crates, etc.

Items 13 and 14 - Self-explanatory

Item 15 - Review program directives regarding the use of seals. Seals are not used in poultry trucks.

Item 16 - Review program directives regarding the requirements for cleaning and disinfecting at destination.

Item 17 - For animals, show complete eartag numbers (including identification and reactor tag numbers [reactor tags below identification tags]); breed; sex; B - T - S AV or A brand; and other identification, such as sale, bangle and backtags, tattoos, and identification brands, as well as distinguishing marks, which is especially significant for equines. No identification is required for poultry or poultry products.

Item 18 - Personally signed by the person responsible for performing the inspection including State, Federal, or accredited veterinarian, Federal Animal Health Technician, or State animal health official.

Items 19 and 20 - Self-explanatory

Items 21 and 22 - Allow a reasonable time for movement to take place.

Item 23 - Signature of owner or shipper. If he is not available, the trucker may sign. This should never be signed by the inspector or a member of the market organization unless the market is the buyer/shipper.

Item 24 - Check applicable block or, if the trucker signed item 23, write "trucker" here.

Item 25 - Self-explanatory.

Items 26 through 29 - For slaughter animals and poultry, on those occasions

and Items 33/34 when the inspector cannot certify as to receipt and slaughter from his or her personal knowledge, and if plant management satisfies the inspector that the animals/poultry have, in fact, been handled properly, the inspector can insert above item 28, "Plant Records" or "Plant Management," and then sign item 33 and date item 34.

For animals shipped to a quarantined feedlot, whenever the inspector cannot verify arrival through direct inspection and count, he or she can insert above item 28 "animals on hand," "quarantined feedlot records, etc., and then sign item 33 and date item 34.

For swine shipped from slaughter market to slaughter market (9 CFR, Part 85.5(a)(1)), the inspector shall verify arrival of all permitted swine by direct inspection and count.

Items 30 through 32 - To be completed when required by regulations and as marked in items 15 and 16.

Distribution of VS Form 1-27 is as outlined on the original and each copy. Below are additional instructions for distributing the original and green copy:

1. The original (white) copy, which must accompany the shipment, should be placed in VS Form 1-14 (the white envelope with the red print) or similar State envelope.
2. For shipments of animals and poultry consigned to slaughter, mail the green copy to the Food Safety and Inspection Service or State Inspector at the recognized slaughtering establishment. For the inspector's use, enclose an envelope addressed to the place where the completed green copy is to be returned.
3. For shipments of poultry products, send the green copy to the Agricultural Marketing Service Inspector located at the destination where the products are to be delivered.

Supplies of VS Form 1-27 and VS Form 1-14 can be obtained from Central Supply. VS Form 1-27 is an accountable form. Issuing offices shall maintain records of distribution and accountability.

/s/

Lonnie J. King

Deputy Administrator

Veterinary Services

2/17/2005

