

Information Note for Exporters

Vesicular Stomatitis in the United States

Please note that due to the current outbreak of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) in certain states* in the United States, the importation of horses, swine and ruminants is suspended from these states until further notice.

CANADIAN HORSES, SWINE AND RUMINANTS RETURNING TO CANADA will not be able to enter Canada after a stay in a VS infected state in the last 21 days. The exception to this rule is Canadian Animals returning on their Canadian health certificate can do so up to three (3) days after the state they are in has been declared affected by vesicular stomatitis by USDA and **must** be inspected by the CFIA POE vet. Otherwise, the Canadian health certificate is null and void.

Horses, swine and ruminants in infected VS states will have to be moved to a non-infected state, stay there for at least 21 days and be certified by USDA as follows:

All states in which the animal(s) have resided in the past twenty-one (21) days have been free from clinical and epidemiological evidence of vesicular stomatitis during the twenty-one (21) days immediately prior to export to Canada.

Various U.S. states may also prohibit movement into state without permit/certification/testing/post-entry testing. The Canadian horse/swine/ruminant owner should check state requirements before movement.

Transiting VS affected states.

Whenever possible, U.S. origin and returning Canadian horses, swine and ruminants should avoid travelling through the infected states. If the only route available is through a VS affected state, when the owner/shipper arrives at the Canadian port of entry they must complete a Supplementary Declaration.

Exception for CFIA pre-approved events.

The CFIA and USDA have negotiated an option that allows U.S horses and ruminants originating from VS affected states and Canadian horses and ruminants to return from VS affected states to attend major competitions/exhibitions.

This option is only available to horses and ruminants participating in the following competitions/exhibitions that have been pre-approved by the CFIA (IAB):

- Royal Winter Fair
- Agribition
- Calgary Stampede
- Thunderbirds
- Spruce Meadows



- Longines Global Tour
- Denver Stock Show
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

U.S origin and returning Canadian horses and ruminants that qualify for this exception are required to obtain a CFIA import permit and a USDA health certificate with the USDA addendum for VS. They must be certified by USDA as follows:

The animal(s) for export to Canada must be certified for vesicular stomatitis (VS) as follows:

- 1) All premises on which the animal(s) has/have resided in the past twenty-one (21) days must have been free from clinical and epidemiological evidence of VS during the twenty-one (21) days immediately prior to movement of the animal(s) off the premises, and this disease has not occurred on any premises within a 25 mile (40 km) radius during the same period of time. AND*
- 2) The animal(s) must have tested negative for VS using a c-ELISA test within the seven (7) days immediately prior to export to Canada. AND*
- 3) The animal(s) was/were inspected within the seven (7) days immediately prior to export to Canada and found to be free of clinical signs of VS. AND*
- 4) The animal(s) was/were protected from insect vectors during the seven (7) days immediately prior to export to Canada and during transport to Canada. AND*
- 5) The animal(s) is/are accompanied by a CFIA import permit and the import permit number is recorded on the addendum.*

The animals must be inspected by a CFIA veterinarian at the Canadian port of entry.

*Your local district office can update you on the current infected states. Please note that additional states might be added on a daily basis. An additional source of information would be the following USDA website link:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/equine/vsv/vesicular-stomatitis>

Please contact your local district office for any questions on this matter.