



Ref: CTO 2016 037 [B]

Veterinary Certification for Horses from the European Union

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors relating to the clearance of horses from European Union according to the approved European Commission veterinary certificate

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Matthew Stone, Chief Technical Officer, Ministry for Primary Industries, give the following directions for horses from the European Union relating to whether to give clearance in accordance with the approved veterinary certificate from the European Commission. The approved veterinary certificate contains the following measures, different from the equine encephalosis (EE) clauses 26 and 27 of the applicable Import Health Standard: Horses [HORANIIC.GEN](#), issued 6 November 2015:

26 and 27:

26. The horses were kept since birth or for at least the 40 days before export in a country where no case of EE has been reported during the past 2 years;

OR

27. the horses were kept since birth or for at least the 40 days before export on premises where no case of EE has been reported during the past 12 months; AND

the horses were kept for at least the 40 days before export in PEI and were protected from vectors at all times whilst in PEI and during transportation to the port of departure.

The measures for EE have been removed in their entirety from the negotiated veterinary certificate. The import risk analysis states that this disease has only been reported in Africa and a case of EE in an imported horse would not lead to further cases as the vector is not present in New Zealand. The consequences of a single imported case of EE would be limited to short-term direct consequences associated with disease investigation. The advice given from the risk team was that it was not necessary to impose measures for EE for European horses.

The removal of measures for equine encephalosis for horses from the European Union is deemed by MPI as equivalent to the requirements in [HORANIIC.GEN](#). The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.