

**PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND
MARINE OF IRELAND AND THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF
QUALITY SUPERVISION, INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON QUARANTINE AND HEALTH
REQUIREMENTS FOR HORSES TO BE IMPORTED FROM IRELAND TO
CHINA**

The Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine of Ireland (hereinafter referred to as "DAFM") and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "AQSIQ"), through friendly negotiations, have agreed to the following quarantine and health requirements for horses to be imported from Ireland to China.

Article 1

The Veterinary Service, DAFM shall be responsible for the quarantine and inspection procedures and the issuance of the health certificate for the horses to be exported.

1.1. After having received the import permit for the horses issued by AQSIQ, DAFM can commence the quarantine and inspection for horses.

1.1.1. Each import permit can only allow for the importation of one consignment of horses.

1.1.2. Horses to be exported should be in accordance with the requirements specified in the import permit

1.2. DAFM shall provide a model health certificate in advance for AQSIQ's approval before it comes into effect.

1.2.1. The health certificate will include the following:

1.2.1.1. Statement that all the requirements of quarantine and inspection stipulated in the protocol have been met.

1.2.1.2. The sex, age, quantity, chip and passport number of the export horses.

1.2.1.3. Results of clinical examination, test methods and results, names of official laboratories.

1.2.1.4. Names, dosages and manufacturers of the parasiticides, disinfectants and medicines that have been used, dates and places of such treatments, The type of vaccine, dosage and date of vaccination, the effective period and manufacturer of the vaccine.

- 1.2.1.5. Date of embarkation, port of departure, the carrier and flight number.
- 1.2.1.6. Names and addresses of consignor and consignee.
- 1.2.1.7. Date of issuance of the health certificate, typewritten name and signature of the veterinary officer.
- 1.2.1.8. The official stamp of DAFM.
- 1.2.2. There will be one original and at least two copies of the health certificate.
- 1.2.3. The health certificates shall be typed in English and Chinese. Handwritten or altered versions are invalid.
- 1.2.4. The original health certificates shall accompany the horses and shall arrive in China at the same time.
- 1.2.5. Should the horses arrive at the Chinese port of entry with an invalid certificate or without a certificate, the horses will be returned or destroyed by AQSIQ.

Article 2

AQSIQ shall send animal quarantine officer(s) to the farms of origin of the horses to be exported, to the related isolation premises, and to the testing laboratories to cooperate with Irish veterinarians in carrying out the inspection and quarantine procedures.

Article 3

3.1. Ireland officially confirms that:

3.1.1. The horses to be exported to China are born and raised in Ireland or raised in Ireland for at least 6 months prior to export.

3.1.2. It is free of African horse sickness, Japanese encephalitis, equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western), equine infectious anaemia, dourine, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, glanders, epizootic lymphangitis, surra, West Nile Fever, Hendra disease, anthrax and vesicular stomatitis.

3.1.3. The horses for export shall not be vaccinated against West Nile Fever.

3.2. Whenever any outbreak of diseases as described in Article 3.1.2 occurs in the country, DAFM shall employ the following actions immediately:

3.2.1. Notify AQSIQ with the details of the outbreak within 24 hours, including the name of the disease, name and address of the farm in which the outbreak occurs, number and species of the animals involved in the outbreak, and the control measures that have been taken; and

3.2.2. Refrain from exporting horses to China at once.

Article 4

4. During the past 12 months, on the farms of origin of horses to be exported, no case of equine rhinopneumonitis, equine viral arteritis, equine epizootic lymphangitis, equine infectious anaemia, contagious equine metritis, equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western), Japanese encephalitis, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, equine paratyphoid (*salmonella abortus-equi.*), horse pox or equine mange has been recorded.

Articles 5

Prior to entry into the isolation premises approved by DAFM, on the farms of origin, the horses to be exported shall be subjected to clinical examination one by one and found to be free from clinical signs of contagious and infectious diseases, and shall be subjected to the following tests for the corresponding diseases in the laboratory approved by DAFM with negative results:

5.1. Equine rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1 and EHV-4):

5.1.1. For unvaccinated horses, ELISA, with negative result;

5.1.2. For vaccinated horses, two serum neutralization tests with an interval of 14 days, at a serum dilution of 1:2, and the second result is less than a four-fold titre of the first test with negative results, or

a virus isolation test or PCR test (using nasopharyngeal swabs or whole blood samples) with negative results.

5.2. Equine Viral Arteritis:

5.2.1. For unvaccinated horses, serum neutralization test, at a serum dilution of 1:4 with negative result;

5.2.2. For vaccinated horses, two serum neutralization tests with an interval of 14 days, and the second result demonstrating a stable or declining antibody titres, followed by a virus isolation or PCR test (using nasopharyngeal swabs or whole blood samples for mares and geldings, semen samples for stallions) with negative results.

5.3. Equine piroplasmiasis (*Babesia equi*, *B. caballi*): cELISA with negative result.

5.4. Equine Influenza:

During the 6 months before the commencement of isolation, the horse was vaccinated against equine influenza (using inactivated vaccine) on at least two occasions. The type of vaccine, dosage and date of vaccination, the effective period and manufacturer of the vaccine shall be provided on the health certificate.

5.5. Contagious equine metritis: Bacterial culture examination for samples collected from reproductive organs of mares and stallions (The castrated horses are exempted from the bacterial culture).

Article 6

Prior to export to China, the horses which passed the inspection and isolation in the farms of origin shall be put under quarantine for at least 30 days in the isolation premises approved by DAFM.

During the quarantine period, all horses shall be examined clinically one by one and found to be healthy and free of any signs or evidence of infectious and contagious diseases, and shall be subjected to the tests defined in Article 5.1-5.3, 5.5 for the corresponding diseases, and the following test for Equine influenza, in the laboratory approved by DAFM with the negative results. Only the negative horses can be exported to China:

Equine influenza: Either an antigen-captured ELISA or a RT-PCR for influenza A was conducted with negative results on the nasopharyngeal swabs taken from the horses 7 days before export to China.

Article 7

Under the supervision of an Irish official veterinarian, the horses to be exported to China, during the quarantine period, shall be:

7.1. Treated against internal and external parasites with effective parasiticides approved by DAFM;

7.2. Treated against leptospirosis with two injections of dihydrostreptomycin at an interval of 14 days at a dosage rate of 25 mg/kg live weight .

Article 8

Under the supervision of an Irish official veterinarian, all crates, vehicles, ships or aircraft used for transportation of the horses shall be cleaned and disinfected using

disinfectants approved by DAFM.

Article 9

Fodder and bedding to be used during the isolation and quarantine period and the transportation shall come from an area free from epizootic equine disease and meet veterinary hygiene requirements.

Article 10

During the quarantine period and on the way of transportation from the origin farm to the isolation premises through the port of embarkation in Ireland, and to the port of China, the horses shall not pass through serious disease infected areas and shall not have contact with and shall not be transported in the same conveyance as animals not of the same consignment.

Article 11

Within 24 hours prior to export, the horses to be exported shall be subjected to close clinical examination and found to be healthy and free from any signs of infectious and contagious disease.

Article 12

Upon the agreement of both parties, this protocol can be amended.

Article 13

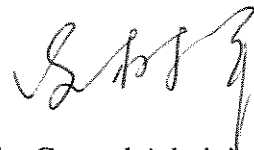
This protocol shall come into effect upon signature of both parties.

Article 14

This protocol is signed in Dublin on April 18, 2017 done in duplicate in English and Chinese, equally authentic in two languages.



The Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine
of Ireland



The General Administration for
Quality Supervision, Inspection
and Quarantine of the People's
Republic of China