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Scope / conditions

The import provisions apply to equine animals from the EU [solipeds belonging to the genus Equus (including horses, asses and zebras) and their crossings].

According to bilateral treaties, the rules governing exchanges between EU Member States and Switzerland are the same as for intracommunity movements. Regulation (EU) 2016/429 sets the basic framework, while detailed additional requirements are laid down in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688 on "INTRA terrestrial animals" (see below "Legal framework").

Overarching protective measures

The protective measures in force on the day of import apply in all cases.

Health certificate / TRACES

The veterinary officer in the country of origin must send an electronic TRACES notification. The cantonal authority must record the establishment of destination in Switzerland in the TRACES electronic system before the first import takes place.

Depending on the particular category of live animals or products, the applicable certificate is the TRACES version of the appropriate model provided for in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403 (Articles 6-7 / 12-13 and Annex I). The original certificate must accompany the consignment in paper form – or also in electronic form as soon as this is technically implemented (see below "Legal framework").

Animals intended for direct slaughter must additionally be accompanied by confirmation 06/04 of the animals' health status and use of medication completed by the establishment operator. The document must be handed to the veterinary meat inspector at the slaughterhouse of destination before the animals for slaughter are examined (see below "Further information").

Additional conditions

Certain animal species are additionally subject to species conservation regulations. Please check the conservation status in the CITES species list (see below "Further information").

The import of many farm animal species is subject to additional requirements based on agricultural regulations, such as general import permits or quotas (see below "Further information" > "Import of agricultural products").

Inspection on entry into the country



Please note that it is not possible to import all categories of animals and goods into Switzerland at all border crossing points. Please contact the customs authorities for any questions regarding customs regulations and procedures.

Miscellaneous

An animal welfare license from the Cantonal Veterinary Office is required for the keeping of wild animal species and if animals are being imported for one of the following purposes: trading, advertising, animal shows, zoos, circuses, and/or animal experiments.

Administration and Informations

Legal framework

Legal framework of the animal health sector governing movements of live animals, germinal products (semen, oocytes and embryos) from animals and animal by-products between EU Member States and Switzerland

Health certificate / TRACES

«Validation mark equine passport» qualifying for TRACES-certificates valid 30 days (in French)
06/04 Confirmation of health status and use of medication for animals from the EU for direct slaughter in
Switzerland (in German)

Further info

Member states / zones free of different diseases

Imports of protected species of animals and plants

Index of CITES species

Animal transport (in French)

Animal Welfare

Federal office for Agriculture Import of agricultural products

Customs offices and opening hours

Addresses of Cantonal Veterinary Offices (German / French)