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Scope / conditions

The import provisions apply to terrestrial animals from the EU that are not kept by humans.

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”).

However, supplementary rules are laid down in further acts: e.g. part of the bluetongue requirements for movements of live animals and germinal products are to be found in Annex V Part II Chapter II of Delegated Regulation EU 2020/689 on “Surveillance and disease-free status”.

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”).

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”).

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

If animals are to be released into the environment, the relevant requirements of the regulations on the protection of nature, environment and hunting must be observed.

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](#)

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](#)

[Customs offices and opening hours](#)

[Addresses of Cantonal Veterinary Offices \(German / French\)](#)