

**PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE FEDERAL AGENCY FOR THE SAFETY OF
FOOD CHAIN OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM 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 EXPORTED FROM
THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM TO THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

The General Administration of Quality Supervision , Inspection and Quarantine of the People’s Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as “AQSIQ”) and the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain of the Kingdom of Belgium (hereinafter referred to as “FASFC”), through friendly negotiations, have decided to the following quarantine and health requirements for horses to be exported from the Kingdom of Belgium to the People’s Republic of China:

Article 1

FASFC shall be responsible for the inspection and quarantine of horses to be exported to China and the issuance of quarantine and health certificate. FASFC will provide a model of the quarantine and health certificate for AQSIQ’s approval before it comes into effect.

1.1. The quarantine and health certificate will include the following:

1.1.1. A statement that all requirements of this Protocol have been met;

1.1.2. The names and addresses of consignor and consignee.

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

1.1.4. The scheduled date of embarkation, the port of departure and the means of transportation.

1.1.5. The results of the clinical examination on the holding and the clinical examination at the quarantine premises, and the identification of the test methods and results of the lab test.

1.1.6. The name and type of vaccine, date of vaccination, dosage, manufacturer and expiry date, if the horses have been vaccinated;

1.1.7. The names, dosages and manufacturers of the parasiticides, disinfectants and medicines that have been used, and dates of such treatments during the period of the export procedure.

1.1.8. The date of issuance of the certificate, the signature and typewritten name of the FASFC veterinary officer certifying the shipment;

1.1.9. The official stamp of FASFC.

1.2. The quarantine and health certificate will consist of one original and at least two copies. The original one will accompany the shipment of horses. Relevant test results will be attached to the certificate.

1.3. The quarantine and health certificate will be typed in Chinese and English. Handwritten (except for the signature of the FASFC veterinary officer) or altered versions will be invalid.

1.4. Should the horses arrive at the Chinese port of entry with an invalid quarantine and health certificate or without a quarantine and health

certificate, the horses will be returned or destroyed by AQSIQ.

Article 2

After having confirmed that the Chinese importer has received the import permit for importation of horses issued by AQSIQ, FASFC may start to implement the inspection and quarantine procedure for horses according to the requirements presented on this protocol.

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

Article 3

AQSIQ shall send animal quarantine officer(s) to the holdings, the related isolation premises and laboratories to co-operate with the Belgian veterinarians in conducting the veterinary health certification procedure for the horses to be exported.

Article 4

FASFC confirms that Belgium is free from African horse sickness, Glanders, Equine encephalomyelitis (Western and Eastern), Japanese Encephalitis, Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis, Vesicular stomatitis and Epizootic lymphangitis.

Should there be any outbreak of a disease listed in paragraph 1 in Belgium, FASFC will immediately:

- 4.1. Notify AQSIQ with the details of the outbreak within 24 hours, including the name of the disease, location of the holding in which the outbreak occurs, number and species of the animal involved in the outbreak, and the control measures that have been taken by FASFC; and
- 4.2. Stop exporting horses to the People's Republic of China.

Article 5

5.1. The horses for export shall originate from provinces which are free from Equine Infectious Anaemia.

5.2. The holdings where the exported horses are coming from will meet the following requirements:

5.2.1. have not had any clinical cases of horse dourine, surra, Hendra disease, Anthrax, Rabies, Melioidosis and horse pox.

5.2.2. have not had any clinical cases of Equine Infectious Anaemia, equine viral arteritis, equine rhinopneumonitis, equine influenza (virus type A), West Nile Fever, equine piroplasmiasis, contagious equine metritis, Equine paratyphoid (salmonella abortus-equi), equine mange, during the past 12 months preceding exportation.

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

5.4 The horses for export are born and raised in Belgium, or shall be raised in Belgium for at least 6 months.

Article 6

On the holdings, the horses for export will be examined and found to be free of clinical symptoms or signs of the infectious diseases mentioned in Article 4 and 5 of this protocol and will be subject to the tests for the relevant diseases according to the requirements in the Annex of this protocol.

Article 7

Prior to export to China, the horses which passed the on-holding testing will be quarantined for at least 30 days on isolation premises approved by FASFC.

7.1. In the isolation premises, there will be no other animals raised. Before horses to be exported entering into the isolation premises, all facilities in the premises will be cleaned and disinfected, using the effective disinfectants approved by the Belgian Authority, and the precautionary measures will have been taken to prevent insect vectors contacting the horses to be exported.

7.2. During the quarantine period, all horses will be examined clinically one by one and found to be healthy and free of symptoms or signs of contagious or infectious diseases and will be subject to the tests for the relevant diseases according to the requirements in the Annex of this Protocol.

Article 8

During the quarantine period, the horses to be exported will be treated against internal and external parasites with effective parasiticides approved by Belgian Authority under the supervision of a FASFC veterinary officer.

Article 9

Within 24 hours prior to export, the horses will be examined by a FASFC veterinary officer and found to be free from clinical symptoms or signs of infectious and contagious diseases.

Article 10

Fodder and bedding to be used during the quarantine period and the transportation will come from an area free from epizootic equine diseases and meet veterinary hygiene requirements; the horses to be exported will be protected from insect vectors during that period.

Article 11

The transportation of horses to be exported will not pass an epizootic equine disease control area and the contact with other animals will not be permitted. The horses will not be shipped in the same conveyance with other animals which are not of the same consignment.

Article 12

All the crates and all means of transportation to be used for the transportation of the horses will be cleaned and disinfected with an officially authorized disinfectant by Belgian Authority.

Article 13

The Protocol can be amended at any time by mutual consent based on negotiations between both sides.

Article 14

This protocol will come into effect on the date of its signature. Either Signatory may revoke the protocol on giving to the other Signatory six months notice of its intention to do so.

Article 15

The protocol is signed in Beijing, on April 16, 2013, in Chinese and English, both versions are equally valid.

On behalf of
General Administration of Quality
Supervision, Inspection and
Quarantine of the People's Republic
of China

On behalf of
the Federal Agency for the Safety of
the Food Chain of the Kingdom of
Belgium

Annex:

Testing Requirements for Horses to be exported from the Kingdom of Belgium to the People's Republic of China

No.	Diseases	Testing on the Holdings	Testing on the Isolation Premises
1	Equine infectious anaemia	Agar gel immunodiffusion test with negative results.	Agar gel immunodiffusion test with negative results.
2	Equine viral arteritis	1. Serum neutralization test at a serum dilution of 1:4 with negative result; or 2. In case of positive antibody titres, serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres, and the animals shall be subject to virus isolation test with negative results.	1. Serum neutralization test at a serum dilution of 1:4 with negative result; or 2. In case of positive antibody titres, serum neutralization test of paired samples, 14 days interval, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres, and the animals shall be subject to virus isolation test with negative results.
3	Equine rhinopneumonitis	1. For non-vaccinated animals, serum neutralization test at 1:2 dilution with negative results; or 2. For vaccinated animals, serum neutralization test, results in titre shall be recorded for comparison with that of testing in the isolation premises.	1. For non-vaccinated animals, serum neutralization test at 1:2 dilution with negative results; or 2. For vaccinated animals, serum neutralization test, within 14 -30 days after the testing in the holdings, negative with the second serum not more than 4-fold increase in titre.
4	Equine influenza	Haemagglutination inhibition test, the result in titre shall be recorded for comparison with that of testing in the isolation premises.	Haemagglutination inhibition test, within 14 -30 days after the testing in the holdings, negative with the second serum not more than 4-fold increase in titre.

5	West Nile Fever	-a Plaque Reduction Neutralization test (PRNT) with negative result, or -a IgM capture ELISA for West Nile Fever virus with negative result or -an IgG ELISA for West Nile Fever virus with negative result.	-a Plaque Reduction Neutralization test (PRNT) with negative result, or -a IgM capture ELISA for West Nile Fever virus with negative result or -an IgG ELISA for West Nile Fever virus with negative result.
6	Equine piroplasmiasis (Babesia equi, B. cabali)	cElisa with negative results or indirect immunofluorescence test, negative at serum dilution of 1:80, or complement fixation (CF) test, negative with less than 50% fixation at serum dilution of 1:5.	cElisa with negative results or indirect immunofluorescence test, negative at serum dilution of 1:80, or complement fixation (CF) test, negative with less than 50% fixation at serum dilution of 1:5.
7	Contagious equine metritis	Except for geldings and colts/fillies under 2 years old: bacterial isolation test, using fresh sperm or urogenital swabs samples, with negative results	Except for geldings and colts/fillies under 2 years old: bacterial isolation test, using fresh sperm or urogenital swabs samples, with negative results
8	Equine paratyphoid (salmonella abortus-equi)	Tube agglutination test, negative at serum dilution of 1:320.	Tube agglutination test, negative at serum dilution of 1:320.