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Director of Agriculture

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Email: directoragriculture@gov.ky



CAYMAN ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
working together, growing together

P. O. Box 459
#181 Lottery Rd
Bodden Town
Grand Cayman, KY1-1106
CAYMAN ISLANDS

GUIDELINES FOR TRAVELLING WITH LOCAL PETS AND PETS RESIDENT IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS FOR AT LEAST THIRTY (30) DAYS

The Animals Law (2015 Revision)

These guidelines are for local pets and pets that have been continuously resident in the Cayman Islands for at least thirty 30 days. All correspondence and **copies** of the application documents should be written in English, and can be submitted for consideration up to six months in advance of travel (see section B8 for further details). Submission options are listed below in order of preference:

1. Copies, scanned and emailed as attachments to ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky
2. Copies, delivered in person to the physical address listed below
3. Copies, delivered via courier service (e.g. FedEx, DHL, etc.) to the physical address listed below
4. Copies, mailed via the traditional mailing system (i.e. 'snail mail') to the post office box listed below

Mailing Address: Veterinary Services Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 459 Grand Cayman KY1-1106 Cayman Islands	Physical address: 181 Lottery Road, Lower Valley Bodden Town, Grand Cayman	Tel: (345) 947-3090 Email: ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky Website: www.doa.gov.ky
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A) PRELIMINARY PREPARATIONS (To be done at least six weeks in advance of any travel plans):

In order for your pet to be prepared to exit and re-enter the Cayman Islands, the following procedures must be carried out **in the order shown below**:

1) Microchip requirements

Your dog or cat must first be permanently identified with a microchip transponder and a microchip implant certificate issued. Proof of the date of implant is required. *As of March 1st, 2019, all animals receiving new microchips should have International Standards Organisation (ISO)-compliant (15-digit, numerical) microchips implanted. Animals with microchips implanted prior to March 1st 2019 will be accepted with an ISO-compatible (10 or more alphanumerical characters) microchip. **Please contact us at ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky for guidance on animals which have multiple microchips. The microchip number must be recorded on all documentation required for the importation of your dog or cat.** Once implanted, the microchip must be scanned prior to completing each step of the importation process (e.g. prior to rabies vaccination, prior to rabies titre testing, at the time of health certificate examination prior to tick and tapeworm administration).*

2) Rabies vaccination

After identification, a licensed veterinarian using an approved inactivated or recombinant vaccine must then vaccinate your dog or cat against rabies and issue a rabies vaccination certificate. Note that both 1-year and 3-year vaccinations are recognised. *Your dog or cat must be at least twelve (12) weeks old before the primary (first) rabies vaccine is given. Subsequent booster vaccinations must be administered one year later in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix VI. Only after that second vaccination can the interval for revaccination be extended legally to 2 or 3 years with a product that has 2-year or 3-year duration of immunity label. Any lapse with revaccination may result in your dog or cat being delayed to re-enter the Cayman Islands.*

For local pets, the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture highly recommends a booster rabies vaccination (at least one (1) month after the initial rabies vaccination. The booster vaccination will enable the animal to have a higher chance of passing the blood (titre) test.

The microchip number must be recorded on the rabies vaccination certificate. Vaccination certificates without a microchip number will not be accepted. The rabies vaccination certificate must also contain the make, serial number, validity of the vaccination, and

expiry date of the vaccine product used. (Currently, only the Department of Agriculture is authorised to administer rabies vaccinations in the Cayman Islands).

3) **Rabies titre testing and eligibility for travel**

A blood test must be taken after vaccination to confirm the presence of protective antibodies against rabies. *The blood test, a Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralising Test (FAVN), must be carried out by a laboratory approved by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for carrying out such a test at a minimum of 30 days after the most recent rabies vaccination. The test result must show a serum antibody level of at least 0.5 IU/ml and must bear the animal's microchip number. Test results bearing the wrong microchip number will not be accepted and a new test will have to be carried out. A list of major approved laboratories can be found in Appendix II. Please contact us at ci.agriculture@gov.ky for information on other potential laboratories.*

To continue to be eligible to enter the Cayman Islands without delay, the titre test must be repeated on/before the 12 month expiration date provided that the titre test result is within its 12-month validity

4) **Application Submission**

As per the enclosed checklist (Appendix II), the following items should be submitted with your application:

Items required to open an application file (this can be done up to six {6} months prior to entry):

- Completed application form
- Completed breed declaration form (dogs only)

Items which should be submitted to add to your file (up to six {6} months prior to entry):

- Copy of the microchip implant certificate, or any document showing the date of microchip implantation
- Current colour photo of your pet (full body)
- Copy /copies of rabies vaccination certificates for rabies vaccinations administered after microchip implantation
- Copy of the rabies titre laboratory report
- A non-refundable application fee (single entry: CI\$50.00 (US\$61.00)); payable to **Cayman Islands Government***

Item which should be submitted to add to your file **within fourteen (14) days prior to entry:**

- Copy of the Veterinary Health Certificate

****Accepted forms of local payments are Cayman Islands and United States cash and cheques drawn on a Cayman Islands bank made payable to the Cayman Islands Government – no wire transfers, credit or debit cards are accepted.***

The documents will be processed and a reply given to you within three (3) working days.

B) BEFORE DEPARTURE

5) **Within 14 days of the scheduled date of travel your dog or cat must be treated for tapeworms and ticks by your private veterinarian during the time of the export health certificate examination (see (6) below).**

*For tapeworms: a preparation containing **praziquantel** at a dose rate of 5mg/kg body weight.*

For ticks: a 'systemic' preparation known to have residual action. Approved product ingredients include fipronil, amitraz, pyrethrins, permethrins, and isoxazolines.

*Note: The following products are **NOT** acceptable: shampoos, collars, preparations that are licensed for control of fleas only (e.g. Program® Advantage®, Revolution® or Sentinel®).*

If you plan to stay overseas for more than 14 days from the date of tick and tapeworm administration, your local veterinarian can skip this step.

6) **Also within 14 days of the scheduled date of travel, your dog or cat must be examined by your local veterinarian and issued with an Export Health Certificate. For travel to, or via North America, your local veterinarian will email us the health certificate for endorsement and once endorsed, an export permit will be issued by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture. For UK/ EU pet travels, a hard copy of the export permit will be prepared by your local veterinarian. The pet owner will also have to make an appointment with the Department of Agriculture for the endorsement of their pet's export health certificate.**

The Department of Agriculture can be contacted 1-2 business days from the date of your pet's examination with the vet to check if the North American export permit is ready for collection.

C) RETURNING TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

7) **If your dog or cat's stay overseas has been 14 days or less, you need only present your valid animal passport, or Single Entry Import Permit, along with the Export Health Certificate obtained prior to departure (see (4) above), to the Agricultural Inspector upon arrival.**

- 8) If your dog or cat's stay overseas is for more than 14 days, you must obtain and present to the Agricultural Inspector upon arrival in the Cayman Islands, in addition to the Single Entry Import Permit, a Veterinary Health Certificate, as outlined in Section D below.

D) VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE (valid for a period of 14 days only)

A Veterinary Health Certificate must be completed and signed by a licensed veterinarian who is accredited by the official government authority of the exporting country to perform health examinations for the purpose of dog and cat exportation. Endorsement of dog and cat health certificates by an official veterinarian employed full time by the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA in the USA, CFIA in Canada, DEFRA in the UK) is dependant solely on the legal requirements of the country of export. However, in the absence of an accreditation programme for the exportation of dogs and cats in the country of export, the veterinary health certificate will need to be endorsed by a veterinarian in full-time employment of the official government authority.

The Veterinary Health Certificate is valid for a period of 14 days only, from the date the pet was examined and the tick and tapeworm treatments administered.

The veterinary health certificate must have the following information:

- 1) A unique certificate number;
- 2) The country of origin of the animal;
- 3) The name and address of the:
 - a) consignor (sender)
 - b) consignee (receiver)
- 4) A description of the animal(s) to be imported; (Species, Breed, Sex and status {spayed, neutered, intact}, Age and Coat colour);
- 5) The microchip identification number of the animal(s), location of the microchip and date of microchip implant;
- 6) Information on the last rabies vaccination (date administered, the vaccine name, its manufacturer and batch number must be on the certificate);
- 7) The type and date of other/routine vaccinations administered;
- 8) If applicable, the seal number of the container in which the animal is being transported along with the signature and stamp of the official affixing the seal. (*See part G Transportation Instructions*);
- 9) Certification statements as outlined below
- 10) Accreditation number of the certifying veterinarian

The veterinary health certificate must have the following statements:

- a. As best as can be ascertained, the animal(s) is/are not infected with any communicable disease and is free from external parasites.
- b. After due enquiry, I am satisfied that: (*delete statements which are not applicable*)
 - a. The animal(s) has/have been resident in the country of export since birth, or continuously for the past three (3) months; or
 - b. The animal(s) has/have been in one or more 'no' rabies-risk countries for the past three (3) months; or
 - c. The animal(s) has/have been in one or more 'low' rabies-risk countries for the past three (3) months; or
 - d. The animal(s) has/have been in one or more 'high' rabies-risk countries for the past three (3) months
 - e. The animal(s) was/were originally from the Cayman Islands
 - f. The animal(s) is/are travelling by sea
 - g. Country of origin of animal(s) {if different from country of export}: _____
- c. After due enquiry, I am satisfied that the animal(s) has/have not been present within the past three (3) months in an officially quarantined or designated rabies area.
- d. The animal(s) has/have been treated on the day of examination with an acaricidal preparation, which is known to have residual action against ticks (include the name of the acaricidal product).
- e. The animal(s) has/have been treated on the day of examination with a preparation containing praziquantel at a dose rate of 5mg/kg body weight, which is known to be effective against tapeworms (include the name of the tapeworm product).
- f. The microchip(s) was/were scanned at the time of physical examination and prior to the administration of tick and tapeworm treatment.
- g. The animal(s) was/were subjected to a neutralising antibody titration test within the past 12 months with a result of 0.5IU/ml or greater (attach a copy of the rabies titre laboratory report).

The certificate should be written in legible English. In such circumstances as may be warranted, it should also be written in a language understood by the certifying veterinarian. A certifying veterinarian should have no conflict of interest with the animals he/she is certifying.

E) PROHIBITIONS TO RE- IMPORTATION

1. In accordance with the Animals Law (2015 Revision), no animal of any description may be imported (directly) into the Cayman Islands from any country in Asia, Africa or Central and South America.
2. Certain breeds of dogs or crosses of such breeds are not allowed to be imported into the Cayman Islands. Genetic material such as semen and embryos from these breeds is also not eligible for entry into the Cayman Islands. All applications for the importation of dogs into the Cayman Islands must be accompanied by a written declaration from the owner/agent of owner attesting that the dog to be imported does not belong to or is not crossed with one or more of the following breeds or type of dogs. (**See Appendix I**) In addition, the applicant must provide a colour photograph(s) of the dog at the time of application that shows the true likeness of the dog.

These breeds include:

- a. **Pit Bull Terrier and its breed types;**
- b. **Dogo Argentino and its breed types;**
- c. **Fila Brasileiro and its breed types;**
- d. **Japanese Tosa and its breed types; and**
- e. **any breed of dog or crossbreed of dog whose breeding lineage was for the primary purpose of dog fighting.***

F) ELIGIBILITY FOR RE- IMPORTATION

These conditions apply to specified countries or territories, each with their own category assignment based on rabies risk. The risk assignments have been made based on the following criteria:

- i. 'No' rabies-risk: territories in which indigenous rabies is absent in terrestrial animals
- ii. 'Low' rabies-risk: territories in which rabies is present in wild animals, but not in companion animals
- iii. 'High' rabies-risk: territories in which rabies is present in both wild and companion animals, or territories for which there are no data to prove otherwise

For a full list of territories/countries, please see Appendix IV of this document. If your territory/country of interest is not listed, please contact us at ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky for further information.

Pets must have been resident in the country of origin/export for at least 3 months prior to entry.

Note that animals travelling by sea (e.g. on yachts, boats, cruise ships, and cargo vessels) will fall into the 'high risk' category.

G) TRANSPORTATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. All animals travelling to the Cayman Islands must do so by the most direct route possible.
2. Animals travelling by air must be carried in an approved container, which meets standards set by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
3. All documents accompanying the animal must be affixed to the container.
4. If travelling other than by direct route from the country of origin, **through a territory not on the approved list**, the door of the container must be sealed with a government approved seal in the country of origin before the animal is loaded onto the aircraft or vessel with the number on the seal entered onto the health certificate by an airline or government official (e.g., agriculture, customs)

H) INSPECTION ON ARRIVAL

Possession of a valid Import Permit does not guarantee entry. All animals and documents are subject to examination at the port of entry by an Agricultural Health Inspector. **Note that the original health certificate document must be presented at the time of animal inspection. All other relevant documents can be submitted as copies at the time of animal inspection.** Should the animal fail to meet entry requirements, the Director of Agriculture (or designate), discretionally, and at the expense of the importer, may order that the animal be refused entry and returned immediately, or be destroyed. **Detention or quarantine is NOT an option in the Cayman Islands.**

I) SERVICE ANIMALS

It should be noted that no differentiations or exemptions in meeting our entry requirements is granted for service and support animals, irrespective of the country or territory of origin. Service animals **MUST** be restrained upon disembarking the aircraft/vessel, and must be identified via appropriate vests.

J) BROKERS

A list of local companies known to be offering pet relocation services can be found on the Department of Agriculture's website www.doa.gov.ky. **The list is for information purposes only.** Inclusion of any company on this list should not be interpreted as an

endorsement of the said company or the services that are offered. The list is not exhaustive and may not contain the name of every company offering these services in the Cayman Islands. Any company wishing to be added or removed from the posted list should contact the DoA by email at CI.AgricultureVS@gov.ky

K) PENALTIES:

Failure to comply with the above import conditions is an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars (CI\$500.00) and to imprisonment for six months. The animal(s) under Law may be ordered to be destroyed or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Director of Agriculture or his designate.

*Please contact the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for the list of breeds that fall under this category for the purposes of importation.



APPLICATION FOR A SINGLE ENTRY IMPORT PERMIT FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The Animals Law (2015 Revision)

One form should be completed for each dog or cat.

I. Consignor (Sender): _____
Overseas Address: _____
Country: _____
Consignee (Receiver): _____
Cayman Address (in full): _____

II. Species of animal: Dog Cat
Age or date of birth: _____
Sex and status: Male Female Spayed/Neutered Intact
Breed: _____
Colour and Markings: _____
Origin of Animal: _____
(State/Region/Country)
Countries animal visited: _____
(last 6 months)

Microchip number: _____ (see section A1 for details on approved microchips)
Anatomical Location of Microchip : _____ **Date of Implant:** _____
Name of Animal: _____

III. SIGNATURE AND CONTACT INFORMATION SECTION (REQUIRED)

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____
Contact Information: Cell: _____ Home: _____
Email: _____

IV. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:(if unknown now submit information within 48 hours of arrival)

Carrier/Flight Number: _____
Date and Time of Arrival: _____

NOTES:

1. When submitting your application, please include a full body, colour photo of your dog or cat.
2. Only submit **copies** of the required documentation when applying for your pet's import permit.



Appendix I: DOG BREED DECLARATION

THIS DECLARATION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY OR ON BEHALF OF AN IMPORTER OF A DOG INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Importation into the Cayman Islands of any dog that belongs to or is crossed to one or more of the breeds or type of dog listed below is not allowed.

OWNER/AGENT INFORMATION

Full name of importer or importer's agent:

Date of Birth:

Home address:

Telephone (Home): (Mobile):

DOG INFORMATION

Name of dog: Age: Breed:

Male Female Spayed/Neutered Intact

Microchip #: (see section A1 for details on approved microchips)

I, solemnly and sincerely declare that to the best of my knowledge the dog to which this declaration relates does not belong to or is not a cross of one or more of the following breeds or type of dogs:

These breeds include:

- a. Pit Bull Terrier and its breed types;
- b. Dogo Argentino and its breed types;
- c. Fila Brasileiro and its breed types;
- d. Japanese Tosa and its breed types; and
- e. any breed of dog or crossbreed of dog whose breeding lineage was for the primary purpose of dog fighting*

I make this declaration believing it to be true and correct.

Date:

Signature of person making declaration:

Declared at [place]:

Penalties: Restricted dogs illegally imported into the Cayman Islands based on a false declaration will be immediately destroyed. Failure to comply with the above import conditions is an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars (CI\$500.00) and to imprisonment for six months.

*Please contact the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for the list of breeds that fall under this category for the purposes of importation.



Appendix II: LIST OF APPROVED LABORATORIES in the USA & UK

Kansas State University (Civilians)
The Rabies Laboratory
Kansas State University
2005 Research Park Circle
Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785-532-4483

Fax: 785-532-4474

Fax: 785-532-4522

<http://www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/dmp/service/rabies/favn.htm>

Biobest Laboratories Ltd 6 Charles Darwin House
The Edinburgh Technopole
Milton Bridge
Nr Penicuik EH26 0PY
Tel: + 44 (0) 131 440 2628
Fax: + 44 (0) 131 440 9587
email: enquiry@biobest.co.uk
www.biobest.co.uk

Animal Health & Veterinary
Laboratories Agency
New Haw
Addlestone
Weybridge
Surrey KT15 3NB
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1932 357345
Fax: + 44 (0) 1932 359519
email: lab.services@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk
www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla

Auburn University Diagnostic Services
Serology/Virology Lab

*261 Greene Hall
Auburn, AL 36849
Tel: 334-844-2659 or 334-844-4539*

Fax: 334-844-2652

Email: virology@vetmed.auburn.edu

For USA Military only
United States Army Public Health Command
DoD Food Analysis & Diagnostic Laboratory (FADL)
PHCR-SOUTH
ATTN: Diagnostics Lab
2899 Schofield Road
Suite 2630
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-7583
http://www.vetlab.army.mil/documents/pet_docs.html

Any laboratory being used for rabies FAVN titre testing in preparation for animal exportation must be one that is approved by the European Union. Please contact the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture for a list of other laboratories if needed.

Appendix III: LIST OF TERRITORIES/COUNTRIES BASED ON RISK STATUS

**Please contact the CIDOA at ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky if your intended country of export is not on this list*

‘No’ rabies-risk territories: no indigenous rabies in terrestrial animals

A American Samoa Andorra Anguilla Antarctica Antigua and Barbuda Aruba Australia Austria Azores	B Bahamas Balearic Islands Barbados Belgium Bermuda British Virgin Islands	C Cabrera, Balearic Islands Channel Islands Christmas Island Cook Islands Corsica Czech Republic, except border with Poland and Slovakia	D Denmark Dominica
E Easter Island Estonia	F Faroe Islands Fiji Finland Formentera France French Polynesia	G Germany Gibraltar Greece Guadeloupe Guam	H Hawaii Hungary
I Ibiza Iceland Ireland (Republic of) Isle of Man Italy	J Jamaica	K Kiribati	L Liechtenstein Luxembourg
M Majorca Malta Martinique Menorca Micronesia Monaco Montserrat	N Nauru Netherlands Netherlands Antilles New Caledonia New Zealand Norfolk Island Northern Mariana Islands Norway (mainland)	P Pitcairn Islands Portugal	S St. Kitts and Nevis St. Lucia St. Martin/Marteen St. Pierre and Miquelon St. Vincent and the Grenadines Samoa San Marino Spain (mainland, Balearic Islands, Canary Islands) Sweden Switzerland
T Tahiti Tokelau Turks and Caicos Islands	U United Kingdom US Virgin Islands	W Wallis and Futuna Islands	

'Low' rabies-risk territories: rabies occurs in wild animals but not in companion animals

B Bulgaria	C Canada Czech Republic (within 50km of border with Poland and Slovakia)	G Grenada	M Marshall Islands	N Niue Norway (Svalbard archipelago)
P Papua New Guinea	S Slovakia Solomon Islands Svalbard archipelago	T Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tuvalu	U United States of America (mainland)	V Vanuatu

'High' rabies-risk territories: rabies occurs in wild and companion animals (or there are not data to prove otherwise)

B Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina	C Croatia Cuba	D Dominican Republic	G Greenland	H Haiti	K Kosovo
L Latvia Lithuania	M Macedonia Mexico Montenegro	P Poland Puerto Rico	R Romania Russian Federation	S Serbia Slovenia	U Ukraine