

Commercial export of dogs and cats to the EU

This advisory is based on EU Directive 92/65/EEC and EU Commission Decision 2013/519/EU

If your situation differs in any way from the proposed process, or if you have information from the veterinary authority of the importing country that differs from the process described below, please contact your local state veterinarian to discuss the matter.

Exporters are advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in South Africa, in advance of each consignment.

Procedure

A. For animals travelling for the first time, the process will take at least 4 months.

- i. The animals must come from a holding that is registered by Veterinary Services Western Cape.
- ii. The pet **MUST** have a transponder implanted and /or read by a veterinarian.
- iii. The pet must have a rabies vaccination administered by a registered veterinarian. A rabies vaccination is only considered valid if it was administered after the animal is older than 12 weeks and the implantation or reading of the transponder (transponder / Micro-chip).
- iv. After the rabies vaccination, they must wait a **MINIMUM** of 30 days before taking their pet to a private veterinarian for a rabies neutralising antibody titre (RNAT) blood test.
- v. They must wait a **MINIMUM** of 90 days (3 months) after the date the blood was drawn for the test before a health certificate can be completed by a private veterinarian, however the issuing of the health certificate is dependent on the results of the RNAT test being above the limit set by the EU (>0.5 IU/ml).
- vi. Within 48hrs of dispatch, the pet must see a private veterinarian for a health check (and the pet must receive *Echinococcus multilocularis* treatment not more than 120hrs and not less than 24hrs in the case of dogs travelling to Malta, Ireland, Finland or the UK) and the **private veterinarian must complete a health certificate**.

- vii. The client must bring the completed health certificate (which MUST indicate the date AND **time** of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* treatment where applicable) as well as the following documents to the local state vet office for authorisation:
1. Original and certified copy of the blood test results
 2. Original and certified copy of the Vaccination booklet incorporating the identification page and the page with the relevant rabies vaccination recorded
 3. Proof of date of transponder implantation in the form of a certified copy of the transponder implantation certificate or a letter from the private veterinarian that indicates the transponder number and the date the transponder was implanted and /or read.
- viii. The client that is receiving the dog in the importing country must notify the border inspection post (BIP) that the dog is on its way.
- ix. The client must obtain a Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED) from the BIP or the local state veterinary office in the importing country before the animal arrives. The amount of time given for this to be done is dependent on the process in the importing country.

B. For pets that have travelled before, that have completed the blood test previously AND that have been revaccinated against rabies **within the period of validity of a previous vaccination according to the manufacturer's recommendations the following requirements must be met:**

- i. Should the revaccination occur within South Africa a separate vaccination certificate / book will need to be issued. South African veterinarians are not legally permitted to enter information into the EU pet passport.
- ii. The animals must come from a holding that is registered by Veterinary services Western Cape.
- iii. The procedure is the same from point (A. vii) onwards.
- iv. Transponder must still be able to be read / active

C. Registration of holdings from which pets must come from

- i. The owner of the holding should make contact with the local state veterinary office in the area the holding is.
- ii. The procedure for registration is dependent on the following:
 - a. the disease status of the area in which the holding is located
 - b. the number of animals that are to be sent and the

- c. frequency that animals are to be sent from that holding
 - d. Risk analysis conducted by the state veterinarian
- iii. Where the procedure determined by the state veterinarian of the area has dictated that ZA registration of the holding is necessary. The client should follow the procedure for obtaining a ZA registration number (SOP 16).

- Certificate application cost can be found on the departmental tariff list (Cost per application in 2016 is R120 each). The cost of the certificate application is payable on appointment.
- Should an inspection of the establishment be required: This can be done at a cost charged according to the tariff list (Costs are R587/per hour (2016) for the 1st inspection or R354/per hour (2016) for follow up inspection / Advisory and R 3.41 per km (2016) travelled) the duration would be at least one hour.
- Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details above.

Office names, locations, contact details and availability for certification

Milnerton Veterinary export certification office

- Contact details: vetexport@elsenburg.com, tel: 021 808 5400, fax 021 808 5125
- Our new office operational since June 2015 is located at 22 Lobelia Street, Milnerton, alternatively the GPS co-ordinates are:
 - GPS Co-ordinates: 33.866870 S 18.503029 E
- At the Veterinary export certificate office in Milnerton clients are assisted from 08:30am to 12:00pm. Outside of these hours clients are assisted by appointment only.

Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg /Boland state vet office

- Contact details: svboland@elsenburg.com, tel: 021 808 5253, Fax: 021 808 5125
- Our offices are located at the Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg. When searching on Google maps, use 'Provincial Department of Agriculture' alternatively the GPS co-ordinates are:
 - GPS Co-ordinates Elsenburg Head Office: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E
- Clients are assisted by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 08:30am to 12:00pm

Malmesbury State vet office

- Contact details : samanthab@elsenburg.com tel: 022-482 1380; Fax 022 487 1924
- Our offices are located at on the corner of Spoorweg and Municipal Streets, Malmesbury.
- GPS coordinates 33.465701 S, 18.721446 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Samantha Burger as the State Vet is not always available.

Vredendal State vet office

- Contact details : deidred@elsenburg.com tel: 027-2133106; Fax 027-213 3109

- Our offices are located at on the corner of Matzikama Street and North Road, Vredendal.
- GPS coordinates 31.662625 S, 18.507298 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Deidre Daniels as the State Vet is not always available.

George State vet office

- Contact details : gabriels@elsenburg.com tel: 044 874 7909; Fax 044 873 3342
- Our offices are located at 4 Varing Avenue George.
- GPS coordinates 33.57.31 S, 22.27.16 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting the office as the State Vet is not always available

Beaufort West State vet office

- Contact details : veronicaj@elsenburg.com tel: 023 414 2154; Fax 023 414 3980
- Our offices are located in Blyth Street, Beaufort West.
- GPS coordinates 32.375009 S, 22.589063 E
- Clients are assisted on Tuesday and Friday only from 10h00 -12h00– please contact Veronica Johannes as the State Vet is not always available.

Swellendam State vet office

- Contact details : sanitag@elsenburg.com tel: 028 514 1670; Fax 028 514 2679
- Our offices are located in the main road, 67 Voortrek Street, direct at the back of ABSA bank.
- GPS coordinates 34.02126 S 20.44140 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Sanita Gunter as the State Vet is not always available.

Worcester State vet office

- Contact details: christik@elsenburg.com tel: 021 808 5059.
- Our offices are located at 30 Van Arckel street, Worcester.
- GPS coordinates 33.623641 S, 19.457008 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Dr. Christi Kloppers, as the State Vet is not always available.