



## Taking pet dogs and cats to the European Union (EU)

This advisory is based on EU regulation No 577/2013,

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 pets travelling for the first time**, the process will take at least 4 months.

The owner or a natural person authorised in writing by the owner **must be traveling with the pet or within 5 days of the pet arriving in the EU**. If this is not possible please refer to the procedure for commercial exports of dogs and cats to the EU.

- i. The pet **MUST** have a transponder (Transponder / Microchip) implanted and/ read by a veterinarian.
- ii. 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 implantation or reading of the transponder.
- iii. 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. The vaccination day = day 0
- iv. 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).
- v. Within 120 hours (5 days) of travelling **BUT NOT LESS THAN 24 HOURS**, the pet must see a private veterinarian for a health check (and *Echinococcus multilocularis* treatment in the case of dogs travelling to Malta, Ireland, Finland or the UK) and the **private**

**veterinarian must complete a veterinary health certificate for dogs and cats travelling to the EU (not the 'old' EU certificate).**

- vi. 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. Vaccination booklet and a certified copy – this should incorporate 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 read.
  4. Written declaration referred to in Article 25(3) of Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 (See appendix)
  5. The boarding pass or flight ticket of the owner or authorised natural person.
  6. If there are more than 5 animals the receipt of entry to the event or proof of membership of a dog/cat show or club.

**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****

- 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 procedure as described from point A.v. above, onwards needs to be followed.
  - iii. Transponder must still be readable/ active
- Certificate application cost can be found on the departmental tariff list (Cost per certificate application for 2016 = R120). The cost of the certificate is payable on appointment.
  - Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details below.

## Office names, locations, contact details and availability for certification

### Milnerton Veterinary export certification office

- Contact details: [vetexport@elsenburg.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

PART 3

**Written declaration referred to in Article 25(3) of Regulation (EU) No 576/2013**

Section A

**Model of declaration**

I, the undersigned

(1)

[owner or the natural person who has authorisation in writing from the owner to carry out the non-commercial movement on behalf of the owner<sup>(2)</sup>]

declare that the following pet animals are not subject to a movement that aims at their sale or a transfer of ownership and will accompany the owner or the natural person who has authorisation in writing from the owner to carry out the non-commercial movement on behalf of the owner<sup>(2)</sup> within not more than 5 days of his movement.

Transponder/tattoo <sup>(2)</sup> alphanumeric code	Animal health certificate number

During the non-commercial movement, the above animals will remain under the responsibility of

<sup>(1)</sup>either [the owner];

<sup>(1)</sup>or [the natural person who has authorisation in writing from the owner to carry out the non-commercial movement on behalf of the owner]

<sup>(1)</sup>or [the natural person designated by the carrier contracted to carry out the non-commercial movement on behalf of the owner: \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name of the carrier)]

Place and date:

Signature of the owner or natural person who has authorisation in writing from the owner to carry out the non-commercial movement on behalf of the owner<sup>(1)</sup>:

<sup>(1)</sup> To be completed in block letters.

<sup>(2)</sup> Delete as appropriate.

Section B

**Additional requirements for the declaration**

The declaration shall be drawn up in at least one of the official language(s) of the Member State of entry and in English and shall be completed in block letters.