



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.

Commercial export of dogs and cats is defined as animals that are NOT travelling with an owner/authorised natural person on or within 5 days to the EU destination. For animals that ARE travelling with an owner/authorised natural person on or within 5 days to the EU destination, please refer to the procedure for non-commercial exports of dogs and cats.

Procedure

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

- i. The pet/s must come from a holding(place where the pet resides) that is registered by Veterinary Services Western Cape.
- ii. The pet MUST have a transponder(microchip) 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 in an animal that is older than 12 weeks of age and if it was administered after the implantation or reading of the transponder
- iv. After the rabies vaccination, the client 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. The client 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 2017 is R130 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 R622/per hour (2017) for the 1st inspection or R376/per hour (2017) for follow up inspection / Advisory and R 3.61 per km (2017) 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 below:

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

- Responsible for the greater Cape Town area, Paarl, Wellington, Franschhoek, Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Gordon's Bay.
- **Contact details:** Dr Gary Buhrmann. Email: aileenp@elsenburg.com / garyb@elsenburg.com / svboland@elsenburg.com Telephone: 021 808 5026 / 021 808 5027, 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'
- 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

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Hopefield, Vredenburg, Piketberg, Tulbagh and Ceres
- **Contact details** : Dr Davey Sewellyn. Email: sewellynd@elsenburg.com / samanthab@elsenburg.com Telephone: 022 433 8915 / 022 433 8910; 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 Dr Sewellyn Davey is not always available.

Vredendal State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Vredendal, Clanwilliam and Van Rhynsdorp.
- **Contact details** : Dr Roelof Hugo. Email: roelofh@elsenburg.com / deidred@elsenburg.com Telephone: 027-213 3106 ; 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

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of George, Riversdal, Mossel Bay and Knysna.
- **Contact details** : Dr Edwin Dyason. edwind@elsenburg.com / santal@elsenburg.com Telephone: 044 803 3774 / 044 803 3771; Fax 044 873 3342 / 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 Santa Lessing as the State Vet is not always available

Beaufort West State vet office

- Responsible for Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Laingsburg and Murraysburg
- **Contact details** : Dr Jaco Pienaar. Email: jacop@elsenburg.com / elouiseh@elsenburg.com Telephone: 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 Elouise Hattingh as the State Vet is not always available.

Swellendam State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Swellendam, Montagu, Worcester, Robertson, Bredasdorp and Caledon.
- **Contact details** : Dr Llewellyn Hon. Email: bidwellg@elsenburg.com / llewellynh@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 028 425 4850 / 028 425 4851 Cell 086 624 7956
- 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 Bidwell Gelwana as the State Vet is not always available.

Worcester State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Worcester, Ceres and Tulbagh.
- **Contact details**: Dr Christi Kloppers. Email: christik@elsenburg.com / bulelwad@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 021 808 5059/ 021 808 5062
- 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 Bulelwa Dinaana, as the State Vet is not always available.

Oudtshoorn State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Oudtshoorn, Ladismith, Van Wyksdorp, Calitzdorp, De Rust and Uniondale.
- **Contact details**: Dr Cathy Fox. Email: cathyf@elsenburg.com / albies@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 044 203 9440 / 044 203 9445 Fax: 044 279 1910 / 044 203 1910
- For forms and procedures relating to ostriches, please contact the [South African Ostrich Business Chamber \(SAOBC\)](#)
- Our offices are located at 39 Van Der Riet Street, OUDTSHOORN, 6620
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Albie Storm, as the State Vet is not always available.