

**Department of Agriculture**

**National Directorate Animal Health**

<b>Notice No. VPN-2002-21</b>	<b>Date: 05 NOVEMBER 2002</b>
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**TO: STATE VETERINARY OFFICERS**

**SUBJECT: Standards for the registration of an import quarantine facility for birds other than poultry.**

<b>PART I</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
<b>PART II</b>	<b>Registration of an approved import quarantine facility for birds other than poultry.</b>
<b>PART III</b>	<b>Listing of approved private import quarantine stations for birds other than commercial poultry.</b>
<b>ANNEX A</b>	<b>Application for official registration of a private import quarantine stations for birds other than commercial poultry.</b>
<b>ANNEX B</b>	<b>Inspection report of a private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.</b>
<b>ANNEX C</b>	<b>Duties of the private veterinarian of a private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.</b>

# PART I

## DEFINITIONS

### FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS STANDARD DOCUMENT

<b>Authorised person</b>	means any person authorised to exercise or perform any power or duty, or requested to render any service, by the Controlling Authority.
<b>Approved Private Import Quarantine Station for birds other than commercial poultry</b>	means a facility under the control of the controlling authority where a group of animals is maintained in isolation, with no direct or indirect contact with other animals, in order to undergo observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing and treatment.
<b>Controlling Authority</b>	means the authority which is directly responsible for the application of animal health measures.
<b>Formite</b>	Any inanimate object or material on which disease producing agents may be conveyed, e.g. faeces, bedding, etc.
<b>Manager</b>	in relation to a facility includes any person for the time being responsible for the management of the facility.
<b>Official veterinary control</b>	means that the Controlling Authority knows the location of the animals and the identity of their owner or responsible keeper and is able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required
<b>Owner</b>	means the person in whom the ownership in respect of animal, thing or property is vested.
<b>State Veterinarian</b>	A veterinarian authorised by the Controlling Authority to perform animal health inspections.
<b>State official</b>	An officer authorised by the Controlling Authority to perform animal health inspections.

**Note:** The definitions used in the South African Animal Diseases Act (No 35 of 1984) should be used in case of uncertainty.

## PART II

### REGISTRATION OF A PRIVATE IMPORT QUARANTINE STATION FOR BIRDS OTHER THAN COMMERCIAL POULTRY

#### 1. REGISTRATION FOR IMPORT STATUS

The applicant must apply in writing to the Controlling Authority, if he wishes to register for a private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.

The purpose of this policy is to allow the private quarantine of imported birds, especially those needing specialised care, without increasing the risk of introducing diseases. In order that this risk be properly managed these quarantine stations will need to meet with the below listed requirements. On application for registration with the National Department of Agriculture Directorate of Animal Health the following documentation must be submitted.

- Annex A - Application form.
- Site and detailed structural plans.
- Annex B - Inspection Report completed by a Controlling Authority or inspector from the National Department of Agriculture Directorate of Animal Health.
- Annex C - The duty sheet of the private veterinarian completed and signed by him/her.
- Written undertaking from the Controlling Authority that they are able to supply the necessary inspection services.
- Written permission from the Local Municipal Authority to erect a bird holding facility.

The facility must be re-inspected after the necessary cleaning and disinfection has been completed on the lifting of quarantine before a new import permit will be granted. Only disinfectants with the necessary virucidal, bacteriocidal and fungicidal effects registered with Act 36 of 1947 may be used. The Controlling Authority must determine the frequency of additional inspections based on the animal health status in the Province or the area.

In conclusion it must be stated that the ***approval of the facility can be withdrawn at any time without warning, at the discretion of the Senior Manager Animal Health if any shortcomings are detected.*** Quarantine can only be lifted in writing by a state official.

## **2. MINIMUM *STRUCTURAL* REQUIREMENTS FOR A VETERINARY APPROVED PRIVATE IMPORT QUARANTINE STATION FOR BIRDS OTHER THAN COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

- 2.1. The establishment should be surrounded by a 2m high and ground bird proof security fence or wall and a gateway to control traffic and access to the site. A sign indicating restricted entry should be posted at the entrance.
- 2.2. Buildings or cages housing birds should be vermin protected and direct contact with non quarantine birds must not be possible. Provision must also be made to prevent escape of birds under quarantine, even if they escape their holding cages. Domestic animals must not have access to the cages and buildings.

NB: In the case of insect free quarantine the cages must be contained in a solid insect proof structure. There must be no openable apertures except for the door which opens into a solid insect proof vestibule, which has its only aperture as the door that opens independently to the outside of the structure. The doors must fit tightly and close automatically to limit access of insects on entry and facilitate the maintenance of the positive/negative pressure within the structure. There must be an acceptable automatic form of flying insect control in the vestibule.

- 2.3. Buildings or cages should be constructed so that all surfaces inside are of an impervious, smooth material to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.
- 2.4. The area immediately surrounding the building or cages should be devegetated (except for trees) and debris free. Ideally concrete should be used to facilitate the maintenance of a hygienic establishment.
- 2.5. Provision must be made within the quarantine facility for storing all equipment and waste products so that no pathogen contained in such matter can infect a susceptible host, until quarantine is lifted. Effluent and run-off which cannot be stored must be effectively treated e.g. incineration, municipal sewerage system or septic tank.

NB: In the case of insect free quarantine drains must be constructed so that insects cannot enter i.e. they must be properly sealed and lead out through a U-shaped water trap. Air must be filtered in and out through suitable insect proof filters. Ensure enough air changes per cubic meter are catered for by the ventilation equipment.

- 2.6. A work area for treatments, bleeding, post mortems etc. must be provided.

### 3. **MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR A VETERINARY APPROVED PRIVATE IMPORT QUARANTINE STATION FOR BIRDS OTHER THAN COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

- 3.1. Good co-operation and communication with the private veterinarian and state officials. This includes immediate notification of any illness, death or other problem.
- 3.2. Quarantine establishments should be single purpose and the all in, all out principle strictly adhered to. Where the quarantine unit described above cannot be physically separated from other birds resident on the premises by more than 1 km, all other birds on the premises will be regarded as potential fomites, therefore no bird nor bird product may leave the premises until quarantine is lifted. Where this applies an inventory of other birds on the premises must be supplied to the supervising state official, at the start of quarantine, for control purposes. The perimeter of the entire premises must obviously be secure, with limited access, in this case. Also any deaths occurring in this resident flock must be investigated and reported.
- 3.3. Only authorised persons (officially authorised by the State Veterinarian) may enter the premises. No visitors are allowed.
- 3.4. Appropriate biosecurity measures like protective clothing, foot baths and secure limited access must be applied to all visitors and staff. Showers and changing facilities should also be available. Where necessary, labour accommodation must be provided. An agreement detailing the requirements must be customised for each approval facility.
- 3.5. Management must ensure the water supply is of a satisfactory potable status and documentation to this effect should be provided.
- 3.6. Provision must be made for isolation of sick birds and dead birds must be temporarily stored in a refrigerator until the private veterinarian and state officials can institute safe proceedings for the necessary diagnostic work and effective disposal.
- 3.7. Full records relating to inspection visits, identification, arrival dates, mortality, disease diagnosis, treatments etc. should be maintained and readily available for inspection.
- 3.8. The facility must be re-approved on an annual basis and the onus of application for re-approval rests with the owner. The facility must be re-inspected after the necessary cleaning and disinfection have been completed on the lifting of quarantine before a new import permit will be granted. Only disinfectants with the necessary virucidal, bacteriocidal and fungicidal effects, registered with Act 36 of 1947 may be used.

In conclusion it must be stated that the ***approval of the facility can be withdrawn at any time without warning, at the discretion of the Senior Manager Animal Health if any shortcomings are detected.*** Quarantine can only be lifted in writing by a state official.

#### **4. INSPECTION TO APPROVE A PRIVATE IMPORT QUARANTINE STATION FOR BIRDS OTHER THAN COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

- 4.1 An official will be appointed by the Controlling Authority to inspect a private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.
- 4.2 The owner of the private quarantine station and the official as appointed in 4.1 will agree upon a suitable date for the inspection. The official will inform the owner of the private quarantine station of the conditions under which the inspection will be carried out.
- 4.3 The basis for facility approval will be the requirements as described in this document.
- 4.4 The official appointed by the Controlling Authority will be responsible for the following actions/procedures:
  - a. Acquaint himself/herself with the minimum requirements of a private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.
  - b. Provide a new applicant with a registration form that corresponds in form and content to the model in Annex A.
  - c. Inspect the private quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry and complete Annex B with appropriate comments, upon receipt of the properly completed and signed registration form.
  - d. If the facility does not comply with the requirements in 4.2.a the official must provide the owner of a facility with a detailed report with the reasons why a facility can not be approved. The report must correspond in form and content to the model in Annex B.
  - e. Arrange for another inspection when the owner indicates that all the deficiencies had been rectified.
  - f. Provide an acceptable inspection and disease reporting service to the private quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry. Import approval will only be considered once such a service is in place.
  - g. Keep the original registration document on file.
  - h. Submit a copy of the registration (Annex A) to the Senior Manager Animal Health for attention Amanda Steyn. The fax number is 012 329 8292.
  - i. Inspect approved private quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry as described in this document.

## **PART III**

### **LISTING OF APPROVED PRIVATE IMPORT QUARANTINE STATIONS FOR BIRDS OTHER THAN COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

1. All approved private import quarantine stations for birds other than commercial poultry must be listed in an official "List of Approved Veterinary Facilities" to be compiled and regularly updated by the Controlling Authority with a copy to the Senior Manager Animal Health.
2. The list must contain the following information for each approved private import quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry.
  - a. Registration number
  - b. Name of owner
  - c. Registered name of private quarantine station for birds other than commercial poultry
  - d. Postal address
  - e. Telephone number
  - f. Fax number
  - g. Province
  - h. District
  - i. Map co-ordinates
3. The list will only be made available upon request to interested parties or persons.

(Logo of Controlling Authority)

**ANNEX A (VPN/2002/22)**  
**APPLICATION FOR IMPORT/EXPORT APPROVAL:**

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Reference no

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT**

DATE		
NAME OF REPORTING PROVINCIAL OFFICER		
NAME OF HOLDING		
APPROVAL NUMBER		
PHYSICAL ADDRESS		
POSTAL ADDRESS		
POSTAL CODE		
TOWN		
PROVINCE		
TELEPHONE NUMBER		
FAX NUMBER		
NAME OF THE MANAGER / OWNER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS OF MANAGER / OWNER		
NAME OF THE HYGIENE MANAGER		
E-MAIL ADDRESS OF HYGIENE MANAGER		
NAME OF AUTHORISED VETERINARIAN RESPONSIBLE FOR VETERINARY INSPECTIONS AND EXPORT CERTIFICATION		
NAMES OF AUTHORISED PROVINCIAL OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSPECTING THE HOLDING ON A REGULAR BASIS		
EXPORTING TO (COUNTRIES)		
IMPORTING FROM (COUNTRIES)		
TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT	LIVE ANIMALS FOR BREEDING	
	LIVE ANIMALS FOR SLAUGHTER	
	SEMEN	
	EMBRYOS/OVA	
	EMBRYONATED EGGS	
	TANNERY	
	TAXIDERMY	
	CANNED FEED FOR ANIMALS	
	DRY FEED FOR ANIMALS	
	OTHER (SPECIFY)	



SPECIES	CATTLE	
	SHEEP	
	GOATS	
	PIGS	
	HORSES	
	WILD GAME	
	POULTRY	
	CAGE REPTILES	
	OSTRICH	
	CROCODILE	
	PRIMATES	
	OTHER (SPECIFY)	

**B. DECLARATION BY STATE VETERINARIAN**

I \_\_\_\_\_ the veterinarian responsible for providing an inspection and certification service at the facility mentioned in the preceding pages hereby declare that:

Drawings of the establishment and a comprehensive inspection report are attached to this application; and

I agree to abide by all the conditions set by the Department of Agriculture and importing countries for the export of animals/animal products obtained from this facility.

**and/or**

I agree to abide by all the conditions set by the Department of Agriculture for the importation of animals/animal products.

Signed at (place) \_\_\_\_\_ on, (date) .....

.....  
(signature of official veterinarian)

Stamp \_\_\_\_\_  
(name in capital letters, title and qualification)

## ANNEX B

### INSPECTION REPORT FOR A PRIVATE IMPORT BIRD QUARANTINE STATION

1. The site and location must be approved by the Senior Manager Animal Health. A plan, indicating surrounding structures, neighbouring activities and a detailed plan of the facility must accompany the application for approval, as well as this form completed by either the Provincial State Veterinarian or an inspector from the National Department of Agriculture.

Yes

No

2. The establishment should be surrounded by a 2m high and ground bird proof security fence or wall and a gateway to control traffic and access to the site.

**Comments:**

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3. A sign indicating restricted entry should be posted at the entrance.

**Comments:**

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4. Quarantine establishments should be single purpose and the all in, all out principle strictly adhered to. Where the quarantine unit cannot be physically separated by 1 km from other birds resident on the premises, the entire premises must be security fenced or walled and no birds nor bird products can be removed from the premises until quarantine is lifted.

**Comments:**

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5. Buildings or cages housing birds should be vermin protected and direct contact with non quarantine birds must not be possible. Provision must also be made to prevent escape of birds under quarantine, even if they escape their holding cages. Domestic animals must not have access to the cages and buildings.

**Comments:**

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NB: In the case of insect free quarantine the cages must be contained in a solid insect proof structure, There must be no openable apertures except for the door which opens into a solid insect proof vestibule, which has its only aperture as the door that opens independently to the outside of the structure. The doors must fit tightly and close automatically to limit access of insects on entry and facilitate the maintenance of the positive/negative pressure within the structure. There must be some automatic form of flying insect control in the vestibule.

**Comments:**

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6. Buildings or cages should be constructed so that all surfaces inside, are of an impervious, smooth material to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.

**Comments:**

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7. The area immediately surrounding the building or cages should be devegetated (except for trees) and debris free. Ideally concrete should be used to facilitate the maintenance of a hygienic establishment.

**Comments:**

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8. Appropriate biosecurity measures like protective clothing and footbaths must be applied to all visitors and staff. Showers and changing facilities should also be available.

**Comments:**

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9. Only authorised persons (officially authorised by the State Veterinarian) may enter the premises. No visitors are allowed.

**Comments:**

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10. Provision must be made for storing all equipment and waste products until quarantine is uplifted. Effluent and run-off which cannot be stored must be effectively treated.

**Comments:**

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- NB: In the case of insect free quarantine, drains must be constructed so that insects cannot enter i.e. they must be properly sealed and lead out through a U-shaped water trap. Air must be filtered in and out through suitable insect proof filters. Ensure enough air changes per cubic meter are been catered for by the ventilation equipment.

**Comments:**

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11. The water supply must be of a satisfactory potable status.

Yes

No

12. Provision must be made for isolation of sick birds and dead birds must be temporarily stored in a refrigerator until the private veterinarian and state officials can institute safe proceedings for the necessary diagnostic work and effective disposal.

Yes       No

13. Full records relating to inspection visits, identification, arrival dates, mortality, disease diagnosis, treatments etc. should be maintained and readily available for inspection.

Yes       No

14. A notice must be prominently displayed on all exits and entrances to the facility stating: "Quarantine area. No unauthorised entry allowed."

**Comments:**

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15. The facility must be re-approved on an annual basis and the onus of re-approval rests with the owner. The facility must be re-inspected after the necessary cleaning and disinfection has been completed on the lifting of quarantine before a new import permit will be granted. Only disinfectants with the necessary virucidal, bacteriocidal and fungicidal effects registered with Act 36 of 1947 may be used.

**General Comments:**

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I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Department)  
certify that I have today inspected the facility \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of facility)  
at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Physical Address)  
and found the above detailed conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Signature

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official stamp

## ANNEX C

### DUTIES OF THE PRIVATE VETERINARIAN AT A BIRD IMPORT QUARANTINE FACILITY

Facility Name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. Weekly inspections of the quarantine station must be undertaken to ensure all quarantine measures are strictly applied. These inspections and any comments must be recorded in the register.
2. All birds must be individually identified and recorded in the register.
3. All gallinaceous birds must be subjected to the following tests as soon as possible after arrival and again 21 days later with negative results:
  - 3.1 Avian Influenza
  - 3.2 Bacillary white diarrhoea (BWD)
  - 3.3 *Salmonella enteritidis*
  - 3.4 Any other tests which the Senior Manager Animal Health may deem necessary.

Blood samples are to be collected, sealed and sent to the Poultry Reference Laboratory at Onderstepoort under official supervision. Results must be reported to the State Veterinarian in charge of the facility.

4. All non gallinaceous birds must be quarantined with sentinel chickens from an officially approved source, which are to be monitored by the private veterinarian, who will report problems to the official veterinarian. The procurement of safe sentinel chickens must be arranged with the approval of the official veterinarian prior to the import permit being issued.

All sentinel chickens must be fully feathered and 6-8 weeks old. They must be pre-bled and bled again after 21 days of exposure for the diseases listed in 3 above.

5. All water fowl must be subjected to the following tests as soon as possible after arrival and again 21 days later with negative results:
  - 5.1 Avian Influenza
  - 5.2 Bacillary White Diarrhoea (BWD)
  - 5.3 *Salmonella enteritidis*
  - 5.4 \*Duck Viral Hepatitis
  - 5.5 \*Duck Viral Enteritis
  - 5.6 \*Goose Parvovirus
  - 5.7 Any other tests which the Senior Manager Animal Health may deem necessary.

\*Not currently done, to be instituted as-soon, as tests become available.

Blood samples are to be collected, sealed and sent to the Poultry Reference Laboratory at Onderstepoort under official supervision. Results must be reported to the State Veterinarian in charge of the facility.

6. All birds must be subjected to *Salmonella enteritidis* monitoring. This monitoring will consist of pooled weekly faecal samples from each pen, taken throughout the duration of quarantine. The samples must be processed according to the standard approved culture methods for *Salmonella enteritidis*.

It is envisaged that the above measures will assist in facilitating decisions on the lifting of quarantine, when confusing results are obtained on the final serological test at the end of quarantine. A decision can then be made, based on scientific information obtained over a period of time.

7. All illness and death must be investigated, recorded in the register and reported to the State Veterinarian in charge of the facility.
8. No animal may be removed from the quarantine premises without written permission from the State Veterinarian in charge of the facility.
9. There must be no contact with birds outside the premises for 48 hours after contact with birds in quarantine.

I, the undersigned veterinarian hereby accept the above duties and undertake to fulfil them to the best of my ability.

Signed at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
VETERINARIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
STAMP

Name in print: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_