



November 20, 2017
17-134

To: All Mission Employees

**NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR DOGS TRAVELING
TO OR THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA**

There has been a change in the pet entry requirements that affects those shipping a dog to or through South Africa. These changes will require significant planning and additional time and expense. Guidelines regarding these changes can be found on the attached document.

If you have any questions, please contact Beverley Paolini at 087 285 4108 or JoosteBA@state.gov.

Thank you.

Drafted: MGMT - JLutz
Cleared: GSO - DMurphy
APHIS - JMcKim
Approved: MGMT – ACorbin-Taylor

Guidelines for Dogs Traveling to or Through South Africa

Effective Immediately:

- The process of preparing a **DOG** to travel **to or through South Africa** will now require an additional test.
- The **Trypanosoma evansi (surra) test** is required for DOGs (not cats) coming from the U.S., and the U.S. does **NOT** test for this specific disease.
- **To fulfill this requirement and receive the necessary USDA-APHIS endorsement:**
 - A blood sample for the **Trypanosoma evansi (surra) test** will need to be drawn by a USDA accredited private veterinarian.
 - The bloodwork will need to be sent to either of the specific labs in **Belgium** or **Japan** listed further down in this document. Once a negative result is received, the USDA will be able to endorse the new South African pet health certificate.
 - There will be no exceptions.

Information from USDA-APHIS:

A veterinary import permit is REQUIRED for all pets (dogs and cats) traveling to South Africa. Veterinary import permit applications and further information can be found on the Republic of South Africa's website at <http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/services/imports>. The completed veterinary permit applications can be sent to the Permit Office at VetPermits@daff.gov.za.

If South Africa approves the import application, they will issue an import permit and provide the required veterinary health which will detail the entry requirements. Please share the import permit and veterinary health certificate with your USDA-accredited veterinarian as soon as you have received it.

All disease testing, including test type, must comply with the requirements outlined on the veterinary health certificate and/or import permit. Failure to comply with the requirements in the veterinary health certificate may result in the pet being returned to the U.S. or euthanized.

U.S. origin DOGS entering South Africa are required to be test negative for Trypanosoma evansi (surra).

Testing must occur at one of the following an OIE Reference Laboratories and shipped via FedEx ONLY:

Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp

Department of Parasitology
Nationalestraat 155
B-2000 Antwerpen, BELGIUM
Tel: +32-3 247.63.71
National Research Center for Protozoan Diseases

Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

Inada-cho Nishi 2-13
Obihiro, Hokkaido 080-8555, JAPAN
Tel: +81-155 49.56.47 Fax: +81-155 49.56.43

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ALL OTHER REQUIRED TESTS should be completed at an officially approved laboratory located in the United States.

APHIS endorsement of the health certificate is required after it has been issued by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian. Health certificate issuance and endorsement must occur within 10 days of the pet's travel.

Our APHIS Pet Travel web site will be updated shortly.

Samples for pre-export testing of U.S. origin dogs for Trypanosoma evansi (surra) must be sent to an OIE Reference Laboratory.

The following is guidance on submitting samples to the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp (Antwerpen), Belgium.

Please share this information with your USDA-accredited veterinarian and follow the guidance provided by the laboratory:

<http://labo.itg.be/analyses/trypanosomaevansi.aspx?L=EN&ForceL=1>

NOTES:

- **Samples must be drawn by a USDA-accredited veterinarian.**
- **On the Test Submission Form:**
 - Include the animal's microchip number on the submission, under "Chip." Note that this is for "Export to Country: South Africa"
 - Be sure to include an email address in the "Invoice" box for billing purposes
 - South Africa requires BOTH the Card Agglutination Test (CATT) for antibodies AND the microscopic examination of a smear after Giemsa staining.
 - Under "Analyses requested:" please check boxes for BOTH "Trypanosoma evansi antibodies (CATT) (recommended by OIE)" and "Trypanosoma evansi microscopy (smear) (recommended by OIE)"
- **Payment** - after receiving the samples, an invoice will be sent by mail. Once full payment is received, the laboratory will release the test results to the requesting veterinary or laboratory.
- **Cost estimations include:**
 - ☐ CATT/test: 32.50€ per test = \$37.66 USD
 - ☐ Parasitology: 32.50€ per test = \$37.66 USD
 - ☐ Administration cost per file: 6.10€ = \$7.07 USD
 - ☐ This does not include FedEx or DHL shipping charges. Those are the responsibility of the submitter/shipper.
- Carefully follow the sample submission instructions for both tests (CATT: Minimum 1-ml AND

Microscopic examination: Unstained good quality smears made from fresh blood)

- Samples must be sent as "UN 3373 Biological substance, Category B" and the laboratory recommends shipping either FedEx or DHL
- Microscopic examination is performed once a week and CATT tests are performed on Thursday afternoons on all samples received by 2:00 pm Thursday local time. Urgent testing for CATT test and microscopic examination is possible. An extra cost of 10% will be charged.
- The laboratory suggests the sender email when samples have been sent.

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Send emails to surra@itg.be and include the following:

- o Name of courier (i.e. FedEx or DHL)
- o Package tracking number
- o Expected arrival date and time
- o Note if this request is for urgent testing
- o Submitting USDA-accredited veterinarian's name and contact information, including email address
- o Name and email of individual responsible for payment

Ship samples to:

Institute of Tropical Medicine

Applied Technology & Production Unit
Nationalestraat 155
B-2000 Antwerpen
Tel: 32 (0)3 247 63 51 or 32 (0)3 247 63 68
surra@itg.be

Instituut voor Tropische Geneeskunde

Stichting van Openbaar Nut SS0410.057.701
T.T.&P.
Nationalestraat 155
B-2000 Antwerpen
Tel.(03)247 63 51 – 68
Fax (03)247 63 73

Owner

Name:

Animal

Name: Passport:

Date of birth: Chip:

Animal species: Tattoo:

Breed:

Veterinary practice

Name: Tel.:

Address: Fax:

E-mail:

Requesting laboratory

Name: Tel.:

Address: Fax. :

E-mail:

Invoice

Name: Tel.:

Address: Fax:

E-mail:

VAT-number:

Date sample taken:

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- _ Export to country:
- _ Import from country:
- _ Diagnosis _ Clinical information:

Analyses requested

- _ Trypanosoma evansi antibodies (CATT) (recommended by OIE)
 - _ Trypanosoma evansi microscopy (smear) (recommended by OIE)
 - _ Trypanosoma evansi immune-trypanolysis (confirmation of positive CATT result - consent required)
 - _ Trypanosoma evansi antibodies (ELISA Equidae, Camelidae)
 - _ Trypanosoma evansi PCR
- The World Organization for Animal Health

We hope this information will help upcoming pet owners to properly prepare for their journey to Post.