

Section 12

EQUIDAE

CHAPTER 12.9

INFECTION WITH EQUINE ARTERITIS VIRUS

Article.12.9.1

General considerations

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the term “equine viral arteritis” refers to an *infection* of domestic equidae by the equine arteritis virus.

This chapter deals not only with the appearance of clinical signs caused by the equine arteritis virus, but also with the presence of *infection* by this virus without the manifestation of clinical signs.

For the purposes of this chapter, isolation means separating domestic equines from those with a different health status with regard to equine viral arteritis by applying measures of *biosecurity* appropriate for the purpose of preventing the transmission of the *infection*.

The infectious period for equine viral arteritis is set at 28 days for all categories of equidae, with the exception of sexually mature stallions, in which the infectious period may last a lifetime. Due to a possible extension of this period in cases of virus excretion in semen, the health status of stallions carrying antibodies must be checked to ensure that they do not shed the virus in their semen.

Standards relating to diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article.12.9.2

Recommendations for the importation of uncastrated male equids

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals* showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and during the 28 days prior to shipment and met one of the following requirements:

1. were isolated for the 28 days prior to shipment and were subjected to a test for EVA carried out on a single blood sample collected during the 21 days prior to shipment with a negative result; or
2. were subjected between six and nine months of age to a test for EVA:

EITHER:

- a. with a negative result,

OR

b. with a positive result, followed at least 14 days later by a second test showing a stable or decreasing titre;

and were immediately vaccinated against EVA and regularly revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

3. met the following requirements:

a. were isolated; and

b. not earlier than seven days of commencing isolation were subjected to a test for EVA on a blood sample with a negative result; and

c. were then immediately vaccinated; and

d. were kept separated from other equids for 21 days following *vaccination*; and

e. were regularly revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

4. have been subjected to a test for EVA carried out on a blood sample with a positive result and then: either

a. were subsequently test mated to two mares within six months prior to shipment which were subjected to two tests for EVA with negative results on blood samples collected at the time of test mating and again 28 days after the mating; or

b. were subjected to a test for EVA with a negative result, carried out on semen collected during the six months prior to shipment; or

c. were subjected to a test for EVA with a negative result, carried out on semen collected within six months after the blood sample was tested, then immediately vaccinated, and regularly revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

Article.12.9.3

Recommendations for the importation of equids other than uncastrated males

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals* showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment; and

EITHER

1. were kept in an *establishment* where no *animals* have shown any signs of EVA for the 28 days prior to shipment; and

a. were subjected to a test for EVA carried out on blood samples collected either once within 21 days prior to shipment with a negative result, or on two occasions at least 14 days apart within 28 days prior to shipment, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres; or

b. were regularly vaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer;

OR

2. were isolated for the 28 days prior to shipment and during this period the *animals* showed no sign of EVA.

Article.12.9.4

Recommendations for the importation of equine semen

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donors were kept for the 28 days prior to semen collection in an *establishment* where no equid has shown any clinical sign of EVA during that period and showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of semen collection; and

1. were subjected between six and nine months of age to a test for EVA:

EITHER:

a. with a negative result,

OR

b. with a positive result, followed at least 14 days later by a second test showing a stable or decreasing titre;

and were immediately vaccinated against EVA and regularly revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

2. were isolated and not earlier than 7 days of commencing isolation were subjected to a test for EVA on a blood sample with a negative result, immediately vaccinated for EVA, kept for 21 days following *vaccination* separated from other equids and regularly revaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer; or

3. were subjected to a test for EVA on a blood sample with a negative result within 14 days prior to semen collection, and had been separated from other equids not of an equivalent EVA status for 14 days prior to blood sampling until the end of semen collection; or

4. have been subjected to a test for EVA carried out on a blood sample with a positive result and then: either

a. were subsequently test mated to two mares within six months prior to semen collection, which were subjected to two tests for EVA with negative results on blood samples collected at the time of test mating and again 28 days after the test mating; or

b. were subjected to a test for EVA with a negative result, carried out on semen collected within six months prior to collection of the semen to be exported; or

c. were subjected to a test for EVA with a negative result, carried out on semen collected within six months after the blood sample was collected, then immediately vaccinated, and regularly revaccinated; or

5. for frozen semen, were subjected with negative results either:

a. to a test for EVA carried out on a blood sample taken not earlier than 14 days and not later than 12 months after the collection of the semen for export; or

b. to a test for EVA carried out on an aliquot of the semen collected immediately prior to processing or on an aliquot of semen collected within 14 to 30 days after the first collection of the semen to be exported.

Article.12.9.5

Recommendations for the importation of *in vivo* derived equine embryos

Veterinary Authorities of *importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor *animals* showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of embryo collection; and

EITHER

1. were kept in an *establishment* where no *animals* have shown any signs of EVA for the 28 days prior to collection; and
 - a. were subjected to a test for EVA carried out on blood samples collected either once within 21 days prior to collection with negative results, or on two occasions at least 14 days apart within 28 days prior to collection, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres; or
 - b. were regularly vaccinated in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer;

OR

2. were isolated for the 28 days prior to collection and during this period the *animals* showed no sign of EVA;

AND

3. semen used to fertilise the oocytes complies with the requirements in Article 12.9.4.

NB: FIRST ADOPTED IN 1968; MOST RECENT UPDATE ADOPTED IN 2014.