

Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Tortoises

(In case of any discrepancy between the English version and the Chinese text of these Requirements, the Chinese text shall govern.)

Promulgated by Council of Agriculture on August 25, 2011

1. The tortoise mentioned herein is that of *Stigmochelys pardalis*, *Geochelone sulcata*, *Kinixys belliana* or their sub-species.
2. The tortoise species requiring an import permit according to the Wildlife Conservation Act shall apply to the central wildlife conservation authority of this country.
3. The imported tortoise shall comply with the following requirements:
 - (1) The number of the imported tortoises is five or more in each consignment:
 - i. The following requirements shall be confirmed by veterinarian licensed by the competent authority of the exporting country:
 - (i) The veterinarian himself or herself is responsible for diseases diagnosis and reporting if a notifiable disease is found in the establishment or raising place of origin.
 - (ii) There is not any case of tuberculosis, salmonellosis or massive unknown etiology deaths during the previous 12 months.
 - (iii) The establishment or raising place of origin shall be disinfected regularly. The sanitary records and production records shall be kept.
 - (iv) The facilities of establishment or raising place of origin shall be inspected regularly, under good maintenance, and capable of keeping other animals out of it.

- ii. The tortoises shall be kept in exporting country since birth or stay in exporting country for at least 1 year(s) prior to the shipment.
 - iii. The tortoises shall be detained for pre-export quarantine on an approved isolated quarantine premise under the supervision of the animal quarantine authorities of the exporting country for at least 30 days prior to shipment.
 - iv. During the pre-export quarantine, the animals shall be subjected to the following examinations and treatments:
 - (i) Examinations of salmonellae: Fecal samples collected from the tortoises are cultured by pre-enrichment media, enrichment media and salmonellae selective media for salmonellae isolation, and the isolated results are negative.
 - (ii) Treatments against parasites: The tortoises shall be treated for internal and external parasites twice at an interval of at least 14 days with broad-spectrum parasiticide.
 - v. The tortoises shall be inspected and found clinically free from any communicable disease or external parasite by an official veterinarian of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country within 2 days prior to shipment.
- (2) The number of the importing tortoise is four or less in each consignment:
- i. The tortoise shall be kept in exporting country since birth or stay in exporting country for at least 1 year(s) prior to the shipment.
 - ii. The tortoise shall be detained for pre-export quarantine on an approved isolated quarantine premise under the supervision of the animal quarantine authorities of the exporting country for at least 30 days prior to shipment.
 - iii. During the pre-export quarantine, the animal(s) shall be subjected to the following examinations and treatments:
 - (i) Examinations of salmonellae: Fecal samples collected from the

tortoise(s) are cultured by pre-enrichment media, enrichment media and salmonellae selective media for salmonellae isolation, and the isolated results are negative.

(ii) Treatments against parasites: The tortoise(s) shall be treated for internal and external parasites twice at an interval of at least 14 days with broad-spectrum parasiticide.

iv. The tortoise(s) shall be inspected and found clinically free from any communicable disease or external parasite by an official veterinarian of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country within 2 days prior to shipment.

4. The imported tortoise shall be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate issued by an official veterinarian of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country and the certificate shall state the following detailed information in English:

(1) Species of the tortoise and origin:

- i. Species: scientific name and common name
- ii. Quantity and age
- iii. Identification number (microchip or other identification marks)
- iv. Exporting country
- v. Competent authority of the exporting country
- vi. Name and address of the establishment or raising place of origin
(exempted when the number of the tortoise of the consignment is four or less)
- vii. Name and address of the exporter or the exporting company

(2) Destination:

- i. Country of destination
- ii. Name and address of the importer or the importing company

- (3) Results of quarantine inspections:
 - i. Dates of pre-export quarantine
 - ii. Attesting that the tortoises are in compliance with Article 3(1) of this Requirement if the number of the tortoise is five or more.
 - iii. Attesting that the tortoise(s) is in compliance with Article 3(2) of this Requirement if the number of the tortoise is four or less.
 - iv. The name of medicine, doses, and the dates of the treatment against internal and external parasites.
- (4) Date, place and authority issuance of the veterinary certificate, official stamp, and the name and signature of the official veterinarian.
5. The tortoise shall be transported with clean container and vehicle disinfected with disinfectant approved by the competent authority of the exporting country. No feed, fodder, bedding or other animals shall be supplementary loaded during the transportation. The transportation and transition shall be pursuant to Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and regulations of International Air Transport Association (IATA).
6. The imported tortoise shall be subjected to post arrival quarantine detention for 2 days. The importer shall apply for post arrival quarantine detention to the animal quarantine authority of this country at least 30 days prior to the shipment.