

Appendix 1-12

Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Meerkats (*Suricata suricatta*)

(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 December 8, 2006

1. Only public or licensed private zoos, academic research institutes or circus (or their agents) are allowed to apply for import permit for meerkats. Before the importation of meerkats, the importer shall submit an application to apply to the animal quarantine authority of this country for import. If the meerkats are regulated by the Wildlife Conservation Act, the importer shall acquire a valid permit for import issued by the competent authority of this country.
2. Meerkats are allowed to import only from countries or zones recognized by the central competent authority of this country as free from highly pathogenic avian influenza.
3. The pregnant meerkats to be imported will be allowed entry only within two third duration of pregnancy at the time of shipment.
4. To import meerkats, the following requirements shall be complied with:
 - (1) The meerkats shall be raised for 1 year prior to export or after birth in the farms, which are under the supervision and regular inspection (including microbiological and parasitological tests and necropsies) by the competent authority of the exporting country. Rabies, brucellosis, Aleutian disease, transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, paratuberculosis, Aujeszky's disease, tularemia, babesiosis, trichinillosis, toxoplasmosis and trypanosomosis shall have not occurred in the farm in the previous year; and tuberculosis has not occurred in the farm for the past 2 years.
 - (2) The meerkats shall have been implanted with microchip and vaccinated with inactivated vaccines against rabies prior to shipment in accordance with the followings:
 - i. In the case of a primary vaccination, the first shot shall be at the age of at least 3 months old, and the second shot shall be at the age of 4 to 6 months old. The period between the day of the second shot and the day of shipment shall be no less than 180 days and no more than one year.
 - ii. In the case of a booster vaccination, the animal shall have been vaccinated no more than one year prior to shipment.
 - (3) The meerkats shall receive pre-export quarantine in an approved quarantine premise under the supervision of the competent authority of the exporting country for at least 30 days prior to export. Bedding must be clean and no evidence of contamination with ticks is found. In addition, the followings shall be complied with during the pre-export quarantine:
 - i. Meerkats shall be subjected to the following tests with negative results:
 - (i) Tuberculosis: Intradermal tuberculin test with bovine purified protein derivative
 - (ii) Paratuberculosis: complement fixation test
 - (iii) Bovine brucellosis: tube agglutination test with the result of serum

agglutination titer under 50 I.U.

- (iv) Blood parasites: blood smear examination
 - (v) Internal parasites: fecal examinations which include the direct wet smear and the floatation concentration method within 7 days prior to export
 - ii. Meerkats shall be treated with dihydrostreptomycin at a therapeutic dose rate for 5 consecutive days.
 - iii. Meerkats shall be treated against internal parasites twice at a minimum of 14 days apart using the compound with broad-spectrum efficacy.
 - iv. Within 72 hours prior to export the meerkats shall be treated with an insecticide dip or spray capable of killing external parasites.
 - v. Other diseases and diagnostic tests provisionally designated.
- (4) During pre-export quarantine, the meerkats shall be inspected and found free from clinical evidence of any communicable disease.
5. The meerkats shall be transported with clean container and vehicles disinfected with disinfectant approved by the exporting country. In addition, the meerkats shall not be transshipped through countries or zones where highly pathogenic avian influenza is known to occur. No supplementary feed, fodder or beddings shall be supplied and no other animals shall be loaded during the transportation. The transportation shall be pursuant to Chapter 5.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and regulations of International Air Transport Association (IATA).
6. The imported meerkats shall be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate issued by the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country and the certificate shall state the following detailed information in English:
- (1) Species of meerkats and origin:
 - i. Species of meerkats: scientific name and common name.
 - ii. Quantity, sex, age and microchip number.
 - iii. Exporting country and competent authority of the exporting country.
 - iv. Name, address and province or area of the farm of origin.
 - v. 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) Attesting that the meerkats in the present consignment are in conformity with Article 4 of the Requirements and stating the date of vaccination against rabies, whether the vaccination was primary or a booster, pre-export quarantine dates, dose and dates of parasiticides treatment, testing dates and the results.
 - (4) Date, place and authority of issuance of the veterinary certificate, official stamp, and the name and signature of the veterinary officer.