

## **Guidelines for the registration of pet bird exporters**

A person or organization who wishes to export pet birds from Sri Lanka should register in the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH).

The following documents should be submitted at the D/VRA/DAPH to register as an exporter:

- A duly filled application form with a requesting letter.
- Copy of the business registration certificate.
- Copy of Environmental Authority Approval (not mandatory)
- Sketch diagram of the pet bird quarantine site
- Copy of the land deed or any other land permit to confirm the ownership of the land.
- Copy of identity card

After the submission of the above mentioned documents, team of Authorized officers will inspect the Quarantine site.

The exporter should inform to Chief Animal Quarantine Officer (CAQO) about the country expected to export, type of birds, number of birds, location of the birds kept and the expected date of the export by using the application form FO/VRA/14(Annexure 1) with a requesting letter and submit the health requirement of the exporting country.

After the submission of the above mentioned documents, a team of officers should visit the farm for site inspection.

The exporter should maintain (export records/ health records/water testing records/deworming and vaccination records) individual records or flock records to submit whenever request by DAPH officials.

If any deaths of birds immediately inform to the Animal Quarantine Officials.

At the time of physical inspection of birds expected to export, should assist the quarantine officials to take required samples for testing and for inspection activities.

The exporter should provide requested facilities to the animal quarantine officers for respective packing, sample testing and bear all the incurred expenses for testing during the quarantine period.

If the consignment recommended for export, the exporter should produce the original invoice/

Wild life permit to the quarantine officers to prepare and issue the export health certificate.

The exporter should arrange transport facilities of the consignment to from quarantine facility to the port of embarkation with thermal regulatory capabilities for temperature control to minimize the transport stress to the birds, according to IATA regulation

- Pet birds should be in quarantine for 21 days prior to exportation under the supervision of veterinary quarantine officers (it can be varied according to the requirements of the importing country).
- Following approval from AQS veterinary officials, quarantine must be carried out at a standardized quarantine site \*.
- Live birds should not show any clinical signs of infectious diseases under AQO or government veterinarian supervision. The required tests must be completed by the due dates specified by the importing country.
- Birds must be vaccinated against or tested for any disease before 14 days. The exporter should submit a vaccination certificate or other evidentiary document to the AQO.
- At least 7 days before the exportation, the exporter must personally apply to an AQS veterinary official (Form No. 1/1).

The application should be accompanied by a copy of the exporter's identification card. If the exporter appoints a representative to apply, the application must be on written paper with copies of the identification cards of the exporter and the representative.

- It is necessary to submit a CITES import and export permit (should be given by an authorized official; example: the Department of Wildlife in Sri Lanka) and organize the necessary veterinary protocols prior to export.

A processing fee will be charged for issuing the certificate at the animal quarantine station.

## B. Biosecurity and Sanitation- structural

The quarantine premises should be physically separated from outside 20m away from other birds' habitats.

Entry gate to the quarantine premises should be closed and strictly controlled person movement by the security officers with a clear sign board permanently made, that states "Quarantine Area–Authorized Persons Only".

Hand washing facilities with suitable detergent should provide at the entrance.

Functional footbaths should be maintained at the entrance of the each pen.

Facilities should be available to dispose the waste water, bird carcasses, spent feed, fecal matter, litter, or other fomites without contaminate the environment or spread disease to other animals.

C. Biosecurity and Sanitation- operational

I. Adequate drinking, required feedstuffs and other supplements should be provided the pet birds in quarantine.

II. Bird Pens, feeding and watering troughs, equipment and drains should maintain cleaned

III. All necessary measures should be taken to prevent the introduction of disease through persons, feedstuff, vehicles, equipment or any other fomites to the birds under quarantine and protective clothing (masks/boots/gloves) and facilities (disinfectants) should be provided for the persons who handle the birds.

IV. Pest control programme should be implemented as follows:

a. Rodents should be controlled by using baits /traps kept around the perimeter of the quarantine area, in all building / areas of potential to harbor for rodents.

b. Spillage of feed should be cleaned promptly.

c. Wild Birds should be prevented from accessing animal feed in the quarantine facility.

d. Maintenance of outdoor areas adjacent to surrounding buildings to keep vegetation short and tidy within at least 24” from the pens (to avoid shelter to pests and predators)

V. Bird Pens, feeding and watering troughs, equipment and drains should thoroughly cleaned and disinfected using appropriate disinfection agent immediately after the release of a batch of bird from quarantine for export

VI. The floor surface should be cleaned by scrubbing or brushing with detergent with plenty of water using high pressure gun/hose before disinfection.

VII. All the materials/ fomites accompanied with pet birds should be disinfected and disposed in an appropriate way preferably by burning.

VIII. After cleaning and disinfection it is advisable to be kept the pens at least 7 days resting period before the admission of another new batch of birds to the same pens.

## **Responsibilities and activities for Quarantine officials:**

### **3.1 Quarantine site inspection**

Upon receipt of the request made by the , AQ officer should carryout quarantine site inspection and give instructions to prepare the premises as appropriate premises for quarantine at least four days in advance.

### **3.2 Pet birds handling at quarantine period**

- a) Pet birds handling must preferably in the morning hours of the day to avoid stress and handled quickly but firmly using appropriate restraint tools.
- b) Pet birds requiring attention must be well secured using appropriate restraint tools repeating

### **3.3 Physical Examination**

- a) At the time of physical examination of the birds in quarantine, the Animal Quarantine officer (AQO) should check of all the records available at farm level and should conduct physical inspection of pet birds using a check list (Annexure I1) .
- b) Use disposable syringes and needles of appropriate gauge for sample collection to maximize efficiency as well as to minimize stress to birds.
- c) During the physical examination, respective tests and treatments (deworming and ecto parasitic treatments) should be performed according to the importing country requirements.
- d) In the case of test positives, if any notifiable disease confirmed through laboratory analysis of samples while birds in the quarantine facility, immediately inform to DG/DAPH through D/VR for necessary action and the respective decisions made by Director General /DAPH according to the power vested by the Animal Disease Act no 29 of 1992. If any non -notifiable disease confirmed through laboratory analysis of samples while birds in the quarantine facility, affected birds would be treated for the condition by the cost of importer
- e) The details of pet birds should be recorded with the observation..
- f) If no any causalities the consignment should be recommended to be exported.

### **3.4 Release from the quarantine and export certification**

After receiving the all the respective testing reports with negative test results fulfilling the importing country requirement and after completion of respective period of quarantine, CAQO

could terminate of the consignment which expected to be export from quarantine and able to issue International Export Health Certificate to facilitate export of pet birds.-

**Characters of the Quarantine site:**

The surrounding area of the proposed land is free from flowering plants.

The quarantine area should be surrounded by walls, fences, or other external barriers.

***The Qurentine area should be free from migratory birds and other pest animals.***

Make sure the quarantine area is inaccessible to predators, and the food storage areas are rodent-proof.

A functional footbath should be maintained at the entrance.

The site should be located in an area with adequate, high-quality water and electricity.

All cages should be provided with proper aeration and adequate sunlight.

The standard cage size should be determined by the breed.

Separate and adequate Personnel should be assigned to working in the quarantine area, and they should not work in other areas of the farm.

A separate area for sick birds.

Record keeping should be maintained, including arrival date and number of birds, vaccination and deworming records, sample collection records, number of cages, bird identification, etc.