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## BOVINE SEMEN: Import Health Requirements into Sri Lanka

### Department of Animal Production and Health Sri Lanka

Version 1.0 | 2026

#### 1. Purpose and Scope

These health requirements are established to prevent the introduction of transboundary animal diseases into Sri Lanka through the importation of bovine semen while facilitating safe international trade. These requirements are based on the standards and recommendations of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) and national policy decisions of Sri Lanka.

These requirements apply to the importation of bovine semen intended for artificial insemination purposes into Sri Lanka. The Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka, shall be the competent authority responsible for regulating the importation of bovine semen.

#### 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this protocol:

- Artificial Insemination (AI) Centre: A facility approved by the competent veterinary authority for collection, processing, and storage of semen in accordance with WOAH standards.
- Competent Veterinary Authority: The government authority responsible for animal health and veterinary certification in the exporting country.
- Donor Bull: A bovine male from which semen is collected for artificial insemination.
- Country-Free Status: Officially certified by the Government Veterinary Authority as free from specified diseases.
- Zone-Free Status: Officially certified by the Government Veterinary Authority as free from specified diseases within a clearly defined area of a country.

#### 3. Pre-import approval

A pre-import approval must be obtained from the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka, prior to shipment of each consignment of bovine semen.

#### 4. Disease Status Requirements

##### 4.1 Country-Free Status

The exporting country shall be officially free from the following diseases, as certified by the Government Veterinary Authority:

Rift Valley Fever

#### 4.2 Zone-Free Status

The semen shall originate from a zone officially free from the following diseases, as certified by the Government Veterinary Authority:

- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Anthrax
- Bovine Brucellosis
- Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD)
- Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis / Infectious Pustular Vulvovaginitis (IBR/IPV)
- Bluetongue

#### 5. Donor Bull Requirements

- The bull shall be progeny-tested, of approved breed, and suitable for artificial insemination, in compliance with the Sri Lanka National Breeding Policy.
- The bull shall not have been used for natural service.

#### 6. Artificial Insemination Centre and Donor Bull Testing Requirements

##### 6.1 AI Centre Approval

Artificial Insemination (AI) Centers shall comply with the approval requirements set out in Chapter 4.6 of the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2023 edition or latest). The Centre shall be licensed and supervised by the Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country. A detailed description of the health management protocol adopted at the AI Centre, certified by the Government Veterinary Authority, shall be submitted together with the specimen Veterinary Health Certificate.

##### 6.2 Entry Screening of Donor Bulls

Upon entry to the AI Centre, each donor bull shall be tested and proven negative for the following diseases, using WOAHP-prescribed or internationally accepted tests:

- Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis / Infectious Pustular Vulvovaginitis (IBR/IPV): ELISA for antibodies
- Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD): Antigen ELISA or PCR
- Bluetongue: PCR
- *Leptospirosis*: Microscopic Agglutination Test (MAT)
- Bovine Genital Campylobacteriosis (*Campylobacter fetus* subsp. *venerealis*): ELISA
- Bovine Tuberculosis: Intradermal Tuberculin Test
- Bovine Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*): Antibody ELISA
- Johne's Disease: Antibody ELISA
- Trichomoniasis: Culture of preputial washings
- *Coxiella burnetii*: Antibody ELISA
- *Mycoplasma bovis*: Antibody ELISA
- *Chlamydiosis*: Antibody ELISA
- Enzootic Bovine Leucosis:

##### 6.3 Ongoing Monitoring

After entry, donor bulls shall undergo regular testing at the AI Centre, preferably every six months, but at least annually, to confirm continued negative status for all listed diseases.

#### 6.4 Semen Collection, Processing, and Storage

- Semen shall be collected, handled, processed, and stored in accordance with the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code, including Articles 4.7.5, 4.7.6, and 4.7.7 (2023 edition or latest).
- Semen shall be processed using approved extenders and additives in accordance with internationally accepted standards.
- Semen shall have been collected within three years prior to the date of import.

#### 6.5 Identification, Packaging, and Transport

- Each semen straw shall be permanently and clearly marked with:
  - Donor identification
  - Date of collection
  - Identification of the AI Centre
- Semen shall be transported in sealed liquid nitrogen containers, under conditions that ensure biosecurity, traceability, and sample integrity.

#### 7. Veterinary Health Certification

Each consignment shall be accompanied by an original International Veterinary Health Certificate issued by the Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country, which shall attest that the semen complies with all requirements contained in this protocol.

#### 8. Inspection on Arrival

All consignments shall be subject to inspection by Animal Quarantine Officers at the port of entry. Non-compliant consignments will be re-exported or destroyed at the importer's expense.

#### 9. Suspension of Imports

The Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka reserves the right to suspend, revoke, or amend pre-import approvals, or prohibit the importation of the commodity covered under this protocol from the exporting country or zone at any time, particularly where there is evidence of an outbreak or an increased risk of any infectious or transboundary animal disease that may pose a threat to animal or public health in Sri Lanka.

#### 10. Protocol Amendments

These health requirements may be amended from time to time in accordance with the disease status reported to WOAHP and the prevailing animal health situation in the exporting country.



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