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CAPRINE 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 caprine 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 caprine 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 caprine 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 Buck: A caprine 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 caprine 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:

- Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia
- Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)
- Contagious Agalactia (*Mycoplasma agalactiae*)

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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 of the exporting country:

- Foot and Mouth Disease (all serotypes)
- Sheep pox and Goat pox
- Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Virus (CAEV) / Maedi-Visna
- Ovine Epididymitis
- *Caseous Lymphadenitis*
- Bluetongue

5. Donor Buck Requirements

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


6. Artificial Insemination Centre and Donor Buck Testing Requirements

6.1 AI Center Approval

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 Bucks

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

- Bluetongue: PCR
 - Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis*): RBPT followed by Complement Fixation Test or ELISA
 - Johne's Disease (Paratuberculosis): ELISA
 - *Tuberculosis*: Tuberculin Skin test
 - *Campylobacter fetus* subsp. *venerealis*: Isolation and Identification in preputial washing
 - *Leptospirosis*: Microscopic Agglutination Test (MAT)
 - Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Virus (CAEV): ELISA
 - *Trichomonas fetus*: Culture of preputial washings
 - *Chlamydiosis*: Antibody ELISA
 - *Salmonellosis*: Antibody ELISA
 - Q Fever: Ab ELISA
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6.3 Ongoing Monitoring

After entry, donor bucks 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 may be rejected, returned, or destroyed at the importer's expense.

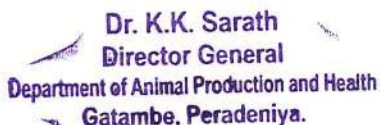
9. Suspension of Imports

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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