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## LIVE GOATS AND SHEEP: 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 goats and sheep, 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 goats and sheep into Sri Lanka. The Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka, shall be the competent authority responsible for regulating such importation.

### 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this protocol:

- **Competent Veterinary Authority:** The government authority responsible for animal health and veterinary certification in the exporting country.
- **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

Pre-import approval must be obtained from the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka, prior to shipment of each consignment of goats and sheep.

#### 3.1 Country Freedom Status for Animal Diseases

The Government Veterinary Authority of the exporting country shall certify that the country is free from the following diseases:

- Rift Valley Fever
- Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)
- Sheep Pox and Goat Pox
- Nairobi Sheep Disease
- Scrapie
- Vesicular Stomatitis
- Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP)
- Contagious Agalactiae

### **Certification Required:**

Official certification confirming that the exporting country has been recognized as free from the above diseases in accordance with the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

### **3.2 Zone Freedom Status for Animal Diseases**

The Government Veterinary Authority shall certify that the zone or region of origin of the animals is free from the following diseases:

- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) – all the serotypes
- Bluetongue
- Anthrax
- Trypanosomiasis (*T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, *T. simiae*, *T. vivax*)

### **Certification Required:**

Official certification confirming the disease-free status of the zone or region of origin.

### **3.3 Farm Freedom Status for Animal Diseases**

The Government Veterinary Authority shall certify that the herd(s) of origin have been free from the following diseases for the specified periods prior to shipment. Supporting technical evidence, including surveillance data, shall be provided.

#### **During the preceding 36 months:**

- Caprine arthritis encephalitis (for goats) / Maedi-visna (for Sheep)

#### **During the preceding 24 months:**

- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex
- Ovine Pulmonary Adenomatosis
- Enzootic Abortion (Chlamydiosis)
- Paratuberculosis

#### **During the preceding 12 months:**

- Contagious Pustular Dermatitis (CPD)
- Dermatophilosis
- Black Quarter
- *Salmonella Abortusovis* infection
- Brucellosis (*Brucella melitensis*, *Brucella ovis*)
- Leptospirosis
- Pasteurellosis
- Pulpy Kidney Disease
- Clostridial diseases
- Heartwater (*Ehrlichia ruminantium*)
- Anaplasmosis
- Babesiosis
- Theileriosis
- Eperythrozoonosis
- *Coxiella burnetii*

- Caseous Lymphadenitis
- *Dichelobacter nodosus*
- *Phomopsis leptostrobiformis*
- Toxoplasmosis

#### 4. Vaccination

Animals shall be vaccinated against the following diseases using registered vaccines:

- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Enzootic Abortion
- Clostridial diseases (e.g., multiple strain vaccine)

#### 5. Testing

All diagnostic testing shall be conducted during the pre-export quarantine period under the supervision of the Government Veterinary Authority in approved laboratories. Only animals testing negative for the following diseases shall be eligible for import:

- Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis – AGID / ELISA
- Bluetongue – cELISA / PCR
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex – PCR
- *Salmonella Abortusovis* – ELISA
- Brucellosis – CFT
- Leptospirosis – MAT
- Paratuberculosis – CFT / ELISA
- Enzootic Abortion (Chlamydiosis) – ELISA
- Heartwater (*Ehrlichia ruminantium*) – PCR
- Anaplasmosis – PCR
- Babesiosis – PCR
- Theileriosis – PCR
- Eperythrozoonosis – PCR
- Flukes – Faecal sedimentation test (zero egg count)
- Nematodes, cestodes, coccidia – McMaster test (zero egg/oocyst count)

#### 6. Anti-parasitic Treatments

##### 6.1 External parasites:

Two treatments with a registered broad-spectrum ectoparasiticide shall be administered:

- First treatment: prior to entry into pre-export quarantine
- Second treatment: three (3) days prior to embarkation

Animals must be free from visible external parasites at the time of shipment. Treatment details (drug name and dates) must be recorded.

##### 6.2 Internal parasites:

- First treatment: prior to entry into pre-export quarantine
- Two treatments 10–14 days apart during quarantine using a broad-spectrum antiparasitic effective against helminths and all stages of flukes (*Fasciola* spp.)
- Final treatment: at least seven (7) days prior to embarkation

Treatment details must be recorded.

## 7. General Requirements

1. Animals shall be sourced from government-registered goat breeder farms (considered as the “herd” in this document).
2. Each animal shall be individually identified using an RFID device in accordance with WOA (Chapter 4.3, Terrestrial Code, 2023).
3. Animals shall have been kept in the country of origin since birth.
4. Animals shall be examined on the day of embarkation and certified as clinically healthy, free from deformities, skin lesions, external parasites, nutritional deficiencies (cobalt, copper, selenium), neurological disorders (e.g., polioencephalomalacia), and signs of poisoning (e.g., nitrate, oxalate), and fit for transport.
5. Pre-export quarantine facilities shall be vector-proof and approved by the Government Veterinary Authority. Animals shall be quarantined for at least 30 days prior to shipment.
6. Animals shall not have been fed feed containing ruminant protein.
7. Transport shall comply with WOA (Chapters 7.2 or 7.4) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations.
8. Bedding material shall be new, clean, unused, and free from contamination.

## 8. 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, certifying that the animals comply with all requirements of this protocol.

## 9. Inspection on Arrival

All consignments shall be inspected by Animal Quarantine Officers at the port of entry. Non-compliant consignments shall be re-exported or destroyed at the importer’s expense.

## 10. Suspension of Imports

The Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH), Sri Lanka, reserves the right to suspend, revoke, or amend import approvals, or prohibit imports at any time in response to disease outbreaks or increased risk.

## 11. Protocol Amendments

These requirements may be amended based on disease status reported to WOA and the prevailing animal health situation in exporting countries.

  
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2026.05.21

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