

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAP.7)

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF
LABORATORY ANIMALS (1/4) - RABBITS, GUINEA-PIGS,
HAMSTERS, MICE, RATS, AND GERBILS (1/2)**

I COUNTRY OF EXPORT

Any country

II PURPOSE

Laboratory use

III IMPORT LICENCE

Each consignment of animals shall be accompanied by a valid import licence issued by the National Parks Board/Animal & Veterinary Service (NParks/AVS).

IV VETERINARY CERTIFICATION

Each consignment of animals shall be accompanied by a veterinary certificate dated within seven (7) days of import and signed or endorsed by a government veterinary authority of the country of export, giving details of the consignment (consignor, consignee, quantity, type, breed, sex, colour, markings of animals, name and address of the breeding facility) and certifying to the effect that:

- (i) the animals were born and bred in a breeding facility approved for the import of such animals by NParks/AVS, Singapore and no case of myxomatosis, tularemia, rabies, Lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Leptospirosis, Korean haemorrhagic fever (Hantaan virus infection), viral haemorrhagic disease of lagomorphs, or any disease notifiable in the country of export has occurred in the facility in the preceding twelve (12) months prior to export,
- (ii) no case of monkeypox has occurred in the facility in the preceding six (6) months prior to export,
- (iii) the animals have not been inoculated with any microorganisms nor been in contact with animals which have been inoculated with any microorganisms,
- (iv) the animals have been examined and found to be healthy and free from any clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease at the time of export.

V DECLARATION FROM MASTER/CAPTAIN OF SHIP/AIRCRAFT

Not required.

VI QUARANTINE

No quarantine is required. However, animals shall not be released following use at the laboratory facility and shall be disposed from the facility. Any suspected outbreak of disease shall be reported to the NParks/AVS immediately and the laboratory facility must have a plan to contain an animal disease outbreak.

VII APPLICATION FOR IMPORT LICENCE

The importer or his agent must apply for the import licence by submitting an online application through GoBusiness Licensing Portal (<https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/licences>) prior to the arrival of animals. The application must be submitted together with a signed declaration by the importer stating that:

- (i) the animals will not be released following use at the laboratory facility and will be disposed from the facility;
- (ii) any suspected outbreak of disease will be reported to the NParks/AVS immediately and the laboratory facility has a plan to contain an animal disease outbreak.

VIII NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL

The importer or agent must make an appointment for the inspection by submitting an online booking request via <https://avs-eservices.nparks.gov.sg/eservices/>. Please ensure your NParks/AVS Import licence no. & flight details are ready and fill in the required information on your application. Inspections without any prior appointment will be charged \$133.00/hour or part thereof even if performed during office hours.

IX VETERINARY INSPECTION

On arrival at the port of disembarkation in Singapore, the animals and documents (Import Licence, Veterinary Health Certificate) shall be presented to and examined by an authorised Veterinary

Officer. If the consignment of animals is found to be healthy and documents are in order, the animals shall be released to the importer.

X PENALTY

All imports must comply fully with the conditions of the Import Licence and Veterinary Conditions, unless prior written approval has been obtained from NParks/AVS. Any consignment of animals or related products that do not meet the requirements may be detained, returned to the country of export or destroyed at the discretion of the Director-General, Animal Health and Welfare. In addition, the importer shall be guilty of an offence under the Animals and Birds Act Section 8(1) and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

XI FEES

- (i) Import Licence)
- (ii) Accommodation at Changi Animal & Plant Quarantine) see Fee Schedule: Attachment-2
Unit (CAPQ)

XII OTHER REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

- (i) Animals must be derived from approved breeding facilities; facilities which have exported to Singapore in the past 2 years are considered approved. Otherwise approval of the facility must be sought before applying for an import licence by supplying detail technical information of the breeding facility eg name, address, and location of facility, type and population of animals in the facility, sanitation and hygiene, management practice, vaccination regime, diseases reported in the past year.
- (ii) The importer must be licensed as an Animal Research Facility by NParks/AVS.
- (iii) Animals must be transported in crates or boxes conforming with IATA guidelines.
- (iv) Any expenditure incurred in the process of importation shall be borne by the importer.
- (v) If the animal dies or is destroyed while under the custody of NParks/AVS, NParks/AVS will not be liable for any compensation.
- (vi) Regulations and fees are subject to change without notice notwithstanding the issuance of a licence by NParks/AVS.

Please note:

Section 72 of the Animals and Birds Act states that:

"(1) Any action taken under the provisions of this Act or of any rule, order or direction made or given thereunder in respect of any animal, bird, carcase, article, building or conveyance shall be at the risk of the owner thereof.

(2) No liability shall attach to the Board or to any officer thereof in respect of any expense, loss, damage or delay arising in or from the lawful exercise of the powers under this Act."

Section 78 of the Animals and Birds Act states that:

"No suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Board, the Director-General or any authorised officer, police officer, officer of customs or any other person acting under the direction of the Board or Director-General for anything which is in good faith done in the execution or purported execution of this Act."

APPLICATION/ENQUIRIES:

Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS)

Raffles Building

Singapore Botanic Gardens

1 Cluny Road

Singapore 259569

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/feedback-and-enquiry>

06 May 2025