

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAP.7)

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF
LABORATORY ANIMAL (2/4) - EMBRYOS, OVA AND
SEMEN OF RABBITS, GUINEA-PIGS, HAMSTERS, MICE,
RATS, AND GERBILS (2/2)**

I COUNTRY OF EXPORT

Any country

II PURPOSE

Laboratory use

III IMPORT PERMIT

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

IV VETERINARY CERTIFICATION

Each consignment of embryos, ova and/or semen 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, species, name and address of the facility in which donor animals are resident, number of embryos, ova or semen straws, batch number, date of collection) and certifying to the effect that:

- (i) the donor animals were born and bred in a facility where no case of myxomatosis, tularemia, rabies, lymphocytic choriomeningitis, leptospirosis, 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) the donor animals have not been inoculated with any microorganisms nor been in contact with animals which have been inoculated with any microorganisms,
- (iii) the donor animals have been examined and found to be healthy and free from any clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease prior to collection of embryos, ova and/or semen.

V DECLARATION FROM MASTER/CAPTAIN OF SHIP/AIRCRAFT

Not required.

VI QUARANTINE

No quarantine is required. The embryos, ova and/or semen 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 PERMIT

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

- (i) the embryos, ova and/or semen 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 consignment and documents (Import Permit, Veterinary Health Certificate) shall be presented to and examined by an authorised

Veterinary Officer. If inspected and the consignment and documents are found to be in order, the consignment shall be released.

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 Permit }-see Fee Schedule: Attachment-2

XII OTHER REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION

- (i) The importer must be licensed as an Animal Research Facility by NParks/AVS.
- (ii) Any expenditure incurred in the process of importation shall be borne by the importer.
- (iii) If the animal dies or is destroyed while under the custody of NParks/AVS, NParks/AVS will not be liable for any compensation.
- (iv) 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