

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

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF
LABORATORY ANIMALS (4/4) - FERRETS (1/1)**

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, age, breed, sex, colour, markings or other points of identification, 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 and have been continuously resident since birth in the facility,
- (ii) no case of Nipah disease, leptospirosis, tuberculosis, tularaemia, botulism, canine distemper, or any disease notifiable in the country of export has occurred in the facility for the last twelve (12) months prior to export,
- (iii) (a) the country of export has been free from rabies for the last two (2) years OR
(b) the animals have a valid vaccination against rabies using an inactivated vaccine or recombinant vaccine acceptable to NParks/AVS at least six (6) months prior to export. This refers to a valid primary vaccination and/or up to date booster(s) according to the vaccine manufacturers' recommendation. In the case of a primary vaccination, the vaccine should be administered when the animals were at least three (3) months old. The animal must have a blood sample taken and tested for acceptable rabies antibody levels (of at least 0.5IU/ml) at least one (1) month after the above vaccination and within six (6) months prior to export.
[The original vaccination and titration test certificates, endorsed by the Official Veterinarian in the country of export, must be attached. The microchip number of each animal shall be stated in each certificate.]
- (iv) the animals have not been inoculated with any micro-organisms nor been in contact with animals which have been inoculated with any micro-organisms,
- (v) the animals have been treated for internal and external parasites using effective medication, such as pyrantel, praziquantel, fenbendazole, ivermectin, fipronil and/or permethrins [The active ingredient(s) and dose rate must be recorded on the Veterinary Certificate]
- (vi) the animals have been examined and found to be healthy and free from any clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites at the time of export.

V DECLARATION FROM MASTER/CAPTAIN OF SHIP/AIRCRAFT

Not required.

VI QUARANTINE

Upon arrival, the animals shall be quarantined for a period of at least 30 days in a quarantine facility approved by the NParks/AVS. During the period of post-arrival quarantine, the animals may be subjected to any testing prescribed by NParks/AVS at the importer's expense. Animals found to be infected with any diseases of concern may be destroyed at the discretion of the Director-General, Animal Health and Welfare.

The officer-in-charge or supervising veterinarian shall report any sickness or death of the animal to NParks/AVS and such animal may not be disposed of without NParks/AVS permission. Any animal that died in quarantine shall be sent to

an approved laboratory for autopsy at the importer's expense. Animals shall not be released following use at the laboratory facility and shall be disposed of from the facility.

VII APPLICATION FOR IMPORT LICENCE

The importer or his agent must apply for an import licence by submitting an online application through GoBusiness Licensing Portal (<https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/licences>) (30) days 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 of 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 \$80.00/hour or part thereof 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 Unit (CAPQ)) see Fee Schedule: Attachment-2

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 permit by supplying detailed 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 permit 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, carcass, 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.”



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APPLICATION/ENQUIRIES:

Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS)

Raffles Building

Singapore Botanic Gardens

1 Cluny Road

Singapore 259569

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

21 July 2021