

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPORTATION OF CATS & DOGS FROM THE USA INTO FIJI.

CONDITIONS:

1. An Import Permit **must be obtained** from the CEO, Biosecurity Authority of Fiji **before** any animal is brought into Fiji.
2. The original of the **Import Permit** must accompany the animal to Fiji.
3. All the conditions listed in the Health Certificate [Schedule 1], Veterinary Certificate A [Schedule 2] and Veterinary Certificate B [Schedule 3] must be fulfilled.
4. The animal must have domiciled no less than 6 months outside of quarantine restrictions in Mainland USA. In the case of an animal less than 6 months of age, its dam must have resided in Mainland USA outside of quarantine restrictions for more than 6 months.
5. Each animal being imported into Fiji must be accompanied by:
 - 5.1 The Health Certificate [Schedule 1]
 - 5.2 Veterinary Certificate A [Schedule 2] signed by a registered veterinarian in Mainland USA and/or endorsed by a USDA veterinarian in Mainland USA, and
 - 5.3 Veterinary Certificate B [Schedule 3] signed by a Mainland USDA veterinarian
 - 5.4 Copies of Veterinary Certification from the animal's country of origin including laboratory results of all tests are required.
6. Each page of Veterinary Certificate A, the laboratory reports, and vaccination certificates must be stamped with an Official USDA Stamp and be endorsed by signature and date by the USDA veterinarian who completes Veterinary Certificate B.
7. All animals must be booked on a flight to Nausori Airport as the Post-Entry Quarantine facility for small animals is located at Koronivia [about 8 kilometers from Nausori Airport]. Animals are not permitted to travel to the facility by road from Nadi. For details regarding quarantine fees contact the Post Entry Quarantine Station on [Phone [679] 347 7044 and Fax [679] 330 5043].

8 GENERAL CONDITIONS

8.1 PROHIBITED BREEDS

The following breeds of dogs are prohibited from importation into Fiji: -

- Dogo argentino
- Fila Brasileiro
- Japanese tosa
- Pit bull terriers, including American pit bull terriers
- Or crosses of any of the above

The following breeds/hybrids of cats are prohibited from importation into Fiji: -

- Serval Cats (**Leptailurus serval** or **Felis serval**)
- Savannah Cats of the F1 Generation
- Savannah Cats of the F2 Generation
- Savannah Cats of the F3 Generation
- Savannah Cats of the F4 Generation
- Savannah Cats of the F5 Generation
- Or crosses of any of the above

A Savannah cat is a cat produced by crossing a serval cat with a normal domestic cat.

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A Cat may be tested by DNA testing to rule out genes of the serval cat from it. (The Veterinary Genetic Laboratory result of the Genetic Typing must accompany the cat to Fiji.)

8.2 IDENTIFICATION

All animals must be identified by a microchip that can be read by an AVID, TROVAN, DESTRON or other ISO – Compatible reader. Where microchip is not available a clear, legible ear – tattoo identification or identification number is acceptable.

8.3 PREGNANCY STATUS

Females must not be more than 21 days pregnant at the time of export, nor must they be suckling young.

8.4 AGE RESTRICTION

Animals under 16 weeks of age are ineligible for importation

8.5 POST ENTRY QUARANTINE

Provided all the other condition of importation have been met and the quarantine fees have been paid, there will be a **mandatory minimum period of 30 days quarantine** at the government Post Entry Quarantine station at Koronivia. Thereafter the animal will be on home quarantine with veterinary examination every 10 days for up to 6 month post departure from mainland USA, followed by a 9th month inspection and a final one 12 months after export (i.e. entry into Fiji), for the purpose of rabies monitoring and surveillance.

9. SANITARY CONDITIONS

9.1 RABIES NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY TITRE TEST [RNATT]

This laboratory test must be done between 60 days and 12 months prior to export.

As this test measures your pet’s antibody response to the rabies vaccination it should be done at least 4 weeks after the rabies vaccination This enables your pet to produce sufficient antibodies to record a positive result.

The date that the blood is drawn for the RNATT will determine the amount of time your pet must stay in quarantine in Fiji.

One hundred and eighty [180] days must lapse between the date that the blood was taken for the RNATT test [with a satisfactory result] and the date the animal is released from quarantine in Fiji.

Furthermore, it must be kept in mind that the animal must spend at least 30 days in the quarantine kennel in Fiji and regardless of when the blood was taken for the RNATT test. This means that if the owner of the animal wants the animal to be quarantined in Fiji for the minimum amount of time of 30 days then blood for the RNATT test must be taken at least 150 days prior to the export i.e. arrival in Fiji.

<u>Collection of sample for RNATT</u>		<u>Minimum quarantine period</u>
150 days or more prior to arrival in Fiji	.....	30 days
135 days prior to arrival in Fiji	.....	45 days
120 days prior to arrival in Fiji	.....	60 days
90 days prior to arrival in Fiji	.....	90 days
65 days prior to arrival in Fiji	.....	115 days

Arrange for a government-approved veterinarian to scan the animal’s microchip and draw a blood sample for the RNATT. The animal’s microchip number/ear-tattoo identification mark must be written on the blood tube.

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A government-approved laboratory must carry out testing. The laboratory report must include the animal's microchip number/ear-tattoo identification mark and has a result of at least 0.5IU/ml. If a result of less than 0.5IU/ml is obtained the animal must be re-vaccinated and the whole process repeated.

The RNATT report must be presented to an Official USDA Veterinarian when completing the Veterinary Certificate B.

The RNATT is only valid for 1 year from the date of blood collection. If you need to repeat your pet's RNATT you must re-test within a year of the initial RNATT to demonstrate continuous protection against rabies and to avoid another lengthy wait before eligible for entry into Fiji.

10. VACCINATIONS

10.1 DOGS

The dog must have been vaccinated against distemper, infectious canine hepatitis, parvovirus, and parainfluenza virus at least thirty days and not more than twelve months prior to export to Fiji.

- The vaccination certificates or copies endorsed by an Official USDA Veterinarian must be attached to Veterinary Certificates A.

10.2 CATS

The cat must have been vaccinated against feline enteritis, feline rhinotracheitis and feline calicivirus at least thirty days and not more than twelve months prior to export to Fiji.

- The vaccination certificates or copies endorsed by an Official USDA Veterinarian must be attached to Veterinary Certificate A.

11. EHRlichiosis

11.1 Dogs must be tested for *Ehrlichia canis* infection by the indirect fluorescent antibody test, on a sample collected within 45 days prior to export to Fiji, with negative results.

11.2 Within 24 hours of collection of blood for this test the dog must receive treatment with a long acting acaricide.

- The laboratory report or a copy endorsed by an official USDA veterinarian must be attached to Veterinary Certificate A.

12. LEPTOSPIROSIS

12.1 Dogs must be tested for *Leptospira interrogans var canicola* infection by serum agglutination test on a sample collected within 30 days prior to export to Fiji with less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100 [i.e. negative results].

- The laboratory report or a copy endorsed by an official USDA veterinarian must be attached to Veterinary Certificates A.

13. BRUCELLOSIS

13.1 Within 30 days prior to the scheduled date of shipment, the dog must be tested for *Brucella canis* with a negative result.

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- The laboratory report or a copy endorsed by an Official USDA Veterinarian must be attached to Veterinary Certificate A.

14. INTERNAL PARASITES

DOGS AND CATS

- 14.1** Within 49 days of the scheduled date of shipment of the dog, the animal must be subjected to two faecal examinations [each test being within 2 days after treatment with Praziquantel], at least 6 weeks apart, using a sensitive flotation procedure, which was negative for *Echinococcus granulosus* eggs. The second test must be within 4 days of shipment.
- The dates of the first and second tests must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.
- 14.2** Within 35 days of the scheduled date of shipment the cat, the animal must be subjected to two faecal examinations [each test being within 2 days after treatment with Praziquantel], at least 4 weeks apart, using a sensitive flotation procedure, which was negative for *Echinococcus multilocularis*. The second test must be within 4 days of shipment.
- The dates of the first and second tests must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.
- 14.3** Within 49 days of the scheduled date of shipment the dog must be treated twice 5 weeks apart with praziquantel for *Echinococcus granulosus*, the second treatment being within 4 days of the schedule date of shipment of the animal.
- The date of treatment, active ingredient and dosage used must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.
- 14.4** Within 35 days of the scheduled date of shipment the cat must be treated twice 4 weeks apart with praziquantel for *Echinococcus multilocularis*, the second treatment being within 4 days of the schedule date of shipment of the animal.
- The date of treatment, active ingredient and dosage used must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.
- 14.5** Within 4 days of the scheduled date of shipment the animal must be treated with an anthelmintic for internal parasites using pyrantel pamoate, dichlorvos or fenbendazole at recommended dose rates.
- The date of treatment, active ingredient and dosage used must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.
- 14.6** Within 4 days of the scheduled date of shipment the animal must be treated with an anthelmintic for internal parasites using pyrantel pamoate, dichlorvos or fenbendazole at recommended dose rates.
- The date of treatment, active ingredient and dosage used must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.

15 EXTERNAL PARASITES

DOGS AND CATS

Within four days of the schedule date of shipment, dogs and cats must be treated with an insecticidal dip or spray capable of killing ticks, lice and fleas

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16 PRE-EXPORT INSPECTION

Within 48 hours prior to export the dog must be examined by a registered veterinarian or an Official USDA veterinarian and found to be free of clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites and fit to travel.

17 LABORATORY TESTING

All immunological testing is to be carried out by official diagnostic laboratories approved by the relevant authority.

18 TRANSPORT

18.1 Animals must be consigned to Fiji by air in a container of no lesser standard than that required by CONTAINER REQUIREMENT 1 of the International Air Transport Association [IATA] Live Animal Regulations.

18.2 The owner of brachycephalic dogs & cats must provide an Indemnity Letter to indemnify the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji of all liabilities concerning the transportation and quarantine of the animal.

18.3 During transport to Fiji animals must not be transhipped – they must be transported directly to Fiji.

18.4 The Official seals on the containers the animals are in must remain intact upon arrival in Fiji.

19 WARNING

Animals for export to Fiji must have complied with all of the conditions listed above prior to export to Fiji. If any of the above conditions are breached or not fulfilled, the animals will either be reshipped out of Fiji or destroyed, at the importer's expense.

20 REVIEWS, ALTERATIONS, CHANGES

These conditions and those of the import permits may be changed, altered, reviewed, revised, revoked, and repealed at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer of the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji at any time depending on the disease situation of the country of origin or exporting country.

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