**THE MANDATE ON THE IMPORTS OF REPRODUCTIVE PRODUCTS (SEMEN, OVA AND EMBRYOS)**

Those who would like to import semen, ova and embryos (reproductive products) shall comply with and fulfill the following issues:

1. The reproductive products shall be imported from the member countries of International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) which health certificate agreement on reproductive products is made with and which are approved by the Ministry (The list of approved countries is available at; <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/Konular/Veteriner-Hizmetleri/Ihracat-Ithalat/Ithalat?Ziyaretci=Ihracat-Ithalat>).
2. The reproductive products to be imported must comply with the health and technical criteria determined by the Ministry. Health certificates are published in the following web address: <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/Konular/Veteriner-Hizmetleri/Ihracat-Ithalat/Ithalat?Ziyaretci=Ihracat-Ithalat>
3. The imports of reproductive products can only be carried out by those who have obtained compliance certificate from the Directorate General of Livestock.
4. It is obligatory to obtain control certificate for the imports of reproductive products.

**Application for Control Certificate and its Approval**

The documents required for the Control Certificate;

1. **Letter of Application -** The document signed and stamped by the entity authorized by the authority for the relevant issue or by a notary public which are stated in the compliance certificate. The content of file and the attachments shall be indicated as attachment to the letter of application. (Annex-1)
2. **Proforma Invoice**- 1 original copy and 2 copies (for documents drawn up in foreign languages, 1 original copy and 2 copies of the translated document which is translated by certified translator) of the document which is stamped by the company and includes invoice number, date, the amount (dose) of reproductive products to be imported, unit price; the name, eartag number/registration number of the animal, which the reproductive products are obtained from; the name, surname and signature of the company official.The information stated in the proforma invoice must the same with the information in the original invoice which will be submitted to the relevant customs during the registration of customs declaration form. Date of issuance for the proforma invoice shall be maximum 6 months before the application date.
3. **Control Certificate-** It is the document in 3 copies including the stamp of the person/institution, the name of the authorized person and signed with wet signature and drawn up in accordance with the sample which maintains its validity throughout the year in which it is published in the Communiqué on Import Control of Products that are Subject to the Inspection of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock. The sample is given in Annex-2
4. **The DNA Profile**- It is the document where the DNA profile of the reproductive products of cattle. This document shall meet the requirement of microsatellite markers in Annex-3 which are used for the confirmation of parents in cattle breeding. DNA profile is not required for other species (sperm of buffalos, rams and male goats). The name, the eartag number and breed of the bull, and the eartag numbers, breeds and the names (if any) of the dam and the sire (they shall not be required if information in relation to the breeds of dam and sire is included in the pedigree) shall be included in the DNA profile document. The original DNA profile document shall be submitted to the authorized laboratory during the import. Its copy shall be sufficient for Control Certificate.
5. **Certificate of Origin -** If the information concerning the country of origin and region (state) of the products is not indicated in the veterinary health certificate, the document which is drawn up and approved by competent official authorities of the exporter country, and which indicates the country and region/state of origin (It shall be in the form of 1 original document, 1 copy and 1document translated into Turkish) shall be provided.
6. **Proforma Veterinary Health Certificate - Proforma veterinary health certificate sample (2 copies)** which covers the same information on the officially approved original veterinary health certificate to be submitted to the respective Customs Directorate during the *de facto* import of the product and which is obtained from the official veterinary service of the exporter country, which will draw up the original veterinary health certificate before the export.
7. **Pedigree -** Approved document (1 original document and 2 copies) for the animals, which the reproductive products obtained from and drawn up by the competent authorities (authorized Ministry, Breeders’ Associations and Cooperatives) shall be submitted.
8. The document indicating the distributorship agreement on the reproductive products to be imported made between the importer and the exporter - The name of the parties, the duration, the name and the identification numbers of the breeding animals in the scope of the agreement must be stated in the agreement document.
9. The document attesting that the bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from, do not carry the genetic defects stated below (the list of carriers of the diseases provided by the relevant competent authority of the exporting country or the approved analysis result obtained from the reference laboratory shall be submitted).

1. The original copy of the receipt or the copy of the bank wire transfer slip certified by the Central Working Capital Accountancy as a proof that the application fee for import permission is deposited into the account of Central Working Capital Enterprise shall be submitted.
2. The Turkish translation by a certified translator of the documents drawn up in foreign languages shall be required for Control Certificate application.

1. The application documents for Control Certificate shall be submitted in the form of a file according to the order stated in Annex-1. In addition, the documents in the file must be recorded onto a CD and be submitted along with the file.
2. In the case that the issuance date of the pedigrees of animals, which the reproductive products are obtained from, is over 6 months, the file shall be closed. Application files and their attachments shall not be returned to the applicants.

**THE TECHNICAL CRITERIA FOR REPRODUCTIVE PRODUCTS TO BE IMPORTED**

The reproductive products to be imported to Turkey shall comply with the following technical criteria:

**Technical criteria for cattle;**

1. They must have pedigrees which cover the required information and data given below concerning the breeding animals, which the reproductive products obtained from and which are drawn up and approved by authorities (Relevant Ministry, Breeders’ Associations and Cooperatives) authorized to keep the records of such information (The pedigrees from EU members shall be drawn up and approved in accordance with the Directive No. 2005/379/EC). Abbreviations used in the pedigrees shall be in compliance with the international norms (INTERBULL) and the pedigree issuance date shall be maximum 6 months before the application date. The following information shall be included in the pedigrees:

* The name and address of the animal owner/breeder
* The herdbook where they are registered
* Herdbook registration number
* The name, eartag number, birth date and breed of the breeding animal,
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the sire
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the dam,
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the father of the sire,
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the mother of the sire,
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the father of the dam,
* The name, eartag number and birth date of the mother of the dam,
* Data regarding the breeding values of the parents and grandparents of the breeding animals.

1. The minimum milk yield average of the national population for 305 days shall be as follows:

Black & White Holstein : 8.000 kg,

Red Holstein : 8.000kg,

Brown-Swiss : 7.000 kg,

Montbéliarde : 6.000 kg,

Simmental (Milk breed : 6.000 kg,

Jersey : 6.000 kg,

European Red : 6.000 kg

The stated milk yield figures shall be compatible with ICAR records and it shall be certified by the competent authorities (Producing Laboratory, Breeders’ Associations/ Cooperatives) of the exporter country which are authorized to organize and approve the relevant data.

The following features shall be required for the bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from:

1. Minimum (breeding) milk yield values by population average;

Holstein : +1000, each lactation of its daughters is 8.000 kg/305 days

Brown-Swiss : +500

Montbéliarde : +500

Simmental : +500

European Red : +500

Jersey : +500

1. The precision (Reliablity) for breeding value shall be minimum 80%,
2. Breeding value on the basis of fat and protein shall be minimum – 0.5,
3. Feet - leg and udder index value shall be positive in Holstein breed.
4. The values indicated in items (c), (d), (e) and (f) concerning the breeding data shall not be required for the **bulls estimated through Genomic Selection method**. Instead, the evaluation shall be made on the basis of minimum 0,60 reliability level (R2) of the milk yield (breeding).
5. The values indicated in items (c), (d), (e) and (f) shall not be required for bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from and which do not carry any genetic defect, and for bulls which entered the Top Lists prepared according to milk yield features (TPI/PTA/GZW/M) and approved by competent authorities.
6. The breeding values indicated in items (c), (d), (e) and (f) must be included in the pedigree of the bull.
7. The bulls, –excluding the beef breeds– which the reproductive products are obtained from, must be registered in INTERBULL, and a document attesting that it is registered must be submitted.
8. There should be at least one of the data on fattening performance values of the beef breeds (Angus, Limousine, Charolais, beef breed Simmental, Belgian Blue, etc.), such as daily live weight gain, feed conversion and carcass yield of the bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from. These data must be included in the pedigree.
9. The bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from, shall not bear the following genetic defects:

For Holstein; BLAD, CVM (TL/BLF, TV/CVF), Brachyspina disease (TY/BYF); Haplotype; HH1, HH2, HH3, HH4, HH5, Red Gene Carrier [Red Gene Carrier (RDC); Black/Red Gene Carrier (BRC); Variant Red Gene Carrier (VRC)]. Red Gene Carrier status shall not be required for red Holstein breed.

Brown Swiss :BH1, BH2,

Simmental :FH2,

Jersey :JH1, JH2

Ayrshire :AH1, AH2

Angus :Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AMF), Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NHF) and Contractural Arachnodactyly (CAF)

The fact that they do not bear the specified genetic defects shall be proved via the pedigree of the bull or the list of disease carriers provided by the relevant competent authority or approved analysis report obtained from the reference laboratory of the country (The imports of products obtained from animals carrying the genetic defects HH4, HH5, BH2, AH2, JH2 shall not be allowed as of 2018.)

1. For cattle embryos, performance of the dam and the daily milk yield of the daughters of the sire for 305 days in each lactation shall be minimum:

Holstein : 8.000 kg,

Brown-Swiss : 8.000 kg,

Montbéliarde : 7.000 kg,

Simmental (dairy breed) : 6.000 kg,

Jersey : 6.000 kg,

European Red : 6.000 kg

1. The pedigrees of the dam and sire of the embryo must be available.
2. The document indicating that the embryos to be imported are produced in compliance with the embryo production and freezing criteria specified by International Embryo Transfer Society’s (IETS) shall be submitted.

**Technical Criteria for Reproductive Products of Buffalos:**

1. It must be stated that the reproductive products of buffalos to be imported are intended for meat or dairy production.
2. The minimum milk yield average of the national population for 270 days shall be minimum 2000 kg.

The stated milk yield figures shall be compatible with ICARD records and it shall be certified by the competent authorities (Producing Laboratory, Breeders’ Associations/ Cooperatives) of the exporter country which are authorized to organize and approve the relevant data.

1. For buffalo bulls, which the reproductive products are obtained from:

PKM (Mozarella production) shall be minimum 100 or milk value (milk/latte) shall be +200. One of these values must be proved through the pedigree of the buffalo bull or a document approved by the relevant competent authority of the exporter country. These values shall not be required for those to be used for beef production.

**The Technical Criteria for the Reproductive Products of Caprine Animals:**

1. The rams and male goats, which the semen is obtained from, shall be progeny tested. The fact that they are progeny tested must be certified via the pedigree.
2. The dam and sire, which the embryo is obtained from, shall be progeny tested. The fact that they are progeny tested must be certified via the pedigree.
3. The document attesting that the embryos to be imported are produced in compliance with the embryo production and freezing criteria specified by International Embryo Transfer Society’s (IETS) shall be submitted.

**The Technical Criteria for the Reproductive Products of Horses**

**Purebred Arabian Horse:**

1. The stallion, which the reproductive products are obtained from, or dam and sire shall be registered to WAHO.
2. Dam and sire must be confirmed through blood type and DNA analysis published in the International Stud Book acknowledged by WAHO.
3. Minimum four generations must have been specified in the pedigree.
4. The DNA profile of the stallions must be certified.
5. The information about the stallion such as country code, where the stallion is registered and its registration number, its name, its breed, code of the premises where it was produced, production date, etc. shall be stated on the straws.
6. It shall be certified that the stallion itself or its at least two progenies ranked among the top three in the internationally recognized horse races.
7. A document attesting that the center, where reproductive products of the stallion were produced, is approved by the official authority of the exporter country, must be submitted (1original document and 1copy).
8. The pedigree of the stallion, which the reproductive products are obtained from, shall be drawn up and approved by the competent authority (It shall be submitted in the form of 1 original document,1 copy).
9. It must be certified that they do not bear phenotypic and genotypic defects.

**Horses for Sportive Activities** [KWPN, Hannoverian, Oldenburg, Holsteiner, Westphalian, Selle Francais, Irish Sport Horse, Swedish Warmblood, Belgian Warmblood, Dutch Warmblood (English Thoroughbred and Arabian Horse excluded];

1. The passport, which minimum four generations of the stallion are indicated on and the pedigree approved by the country’s official competent authority shall be submitted (1 original document and 1 copy).
2. The DNA profile of the stallion, which the reproductive products are obtained from, must be certified.
3. Information about the stallion such as the country code, where the stallion is registered, the UELN No (Universal Equine Life Number) or microchip number, its name, its breed, code of the premises where it was produced, and production date shall be stated on straws.
4. The stallion, which the reproductive products are obtained from, must be included in the Dressage, Eventing, Jumping lists published in the website of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses ([www.wbfsh.org/Rankings](http://www.wbfsh.org/Rankings) ), and their success point must be certified.
5. It must be certified that they do not bear phenotypic and genotypic defects.

**The Obligations of Reproductive Products Importers**

1. The reproductive products cannot be put up for sale unless all the import activities and proceedings including the analyses to be conducted for the imported products are finalized, and published in the list in the web address of the Directorate General of Livestock (https://www.tarim.gov.tr/HAYGEM).
2. Upon request, the importers are obliged to provide information to the distributors or operators about breeding values for reproductive products they sell.
3. The importers are obliged to keep the records regarding the fact that they sell the reproductive products to whom, to where and how much, and obliged to notify all those records to the Ministry upon request whether or not they conducted the sales directly by themselves or via distributors.

**Miscellaneous Provisions**

1. If the imported reproductive products are sexed (male/female), it must be stated on the straws.
2. Besides the abovementioned information and documents, the Directorate General may require additional information and documents concerning the imported reproductive products and the animals, which those products are obtained from, when necessary. The importers are also obliged to provide required additional information and documents.
3. The Mandate No. E.484552 of 27/02/2017 on the imports of semen, ova and embryos and its annexes were repealed. The activities and proceedings regarding the imports of reproductive products shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Mandate.

**Annex-1**

TO THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF LIVESTOCK

……/…../2018

We operate in the Province of …………… as a/an ……………… company. We would like to import …… doses of reproductive products (frozen semen, etc.) which comply with the criteria stated below from ………… (country) with the Proforma Invoice dated …./…/…… and numbered …………...

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME OF THE ANIMAL | EARTAG NUMBER | BREED | PROVEN/GENOMİC/TOPLIST | DOSE |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

The documents required for the import are attached, and I kindly request you to grant import permission and draw up control certificate.

Name and Surname

Seal

Signature

Annexes:

1. Circulating Capital Receipt
2. Proforma Invoice (1 Original document and 2 copies; 1 translated version translated by a certified translation agency/translator and two copies),
3. Control Certificate (3)
4. Health Certificate ( 3)
5. Pedigree (1 original document and 2 copies)
6. DNA Certificate
7. ICAR (For Milk Breeds and Dual Purpose Breeds)
8. The document indicating that they do not bear any genetic defect
9. The document indicating that they are registered to INTERBULL (For Milk Breeds and Dual Purpose Breeds)
10. Distributorship agreement
11. A document indicating the level of milk yield reliability (for animals for which estimations are made using genomic selection method)

**Annex-2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**  **THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK**  **THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF LIVESTOCK** | |
| **CONTROL CERTIFICATE** | |
| HS Code (1): |  |
| Name of the Material (2): |  |
| The list which the material is included in: | Annex-1/A |
| **The importer company’s:** |  |
| Trade name |  |
| Address and phone number: |  |
| Tax Office: |  |
| Tax registration number: |  |
| The trade name and address of the exporter company: |  |
| **The material’s:** |  |
| Place of use: |  |
| Import purpose (3): |  |
| Amount: |  |
| Batch number (4): |  |
| Country of origin: |  |
| Country of loading: |  |
| Customs entry: |  |
| The trade name, address and phone number of the User: |  |
| Circle the relevant heading stated below according to the feature of the item to be imported. (In addition, the relevant section will be underlined if the item is in Group B.)  **A-** It complies with the provisions of Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed Law No. 5996).  B- It complies with the specifications of European Community, world Health Organization and Codex Alimentarius.  C- It complies with the provisions of Seed Law No. 5553.  D- It complies with the provisions of Fisheries Law No. 1380.  E- It complies with the provisions of Animal Protection Law No.5199. | |
| (1) HS Code specification is not under the responsibility of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.  (2) In the proforma invoice, if there is more than one item under one name, they will be indicated separately.  (3) It will be stated in the imports of live aquacultural products.  (4) It shall be indicated in the imports of veterinary medicinal products, materials used in the production of these products or starting materials. | |
| We affirm that the information on this form organized by us is precise and complete, and we undertake to import the products in compliance with the provisions of the Communiqué on Import Control of Products that are Subject to the Inspection of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (Product Safety and Inspection: 2018/5).  Seal of the company  The name and surname of the Official /Signature | |
| As a result of the inspection carried out in in accordance with the relevant Communiqué, the import of this product which is in the scope of this Control Certificate is approved on condition that the product is deemed suitable in the inspections of the product in terms of human health & safety, and animal & plant inventory and health during the customs process.  Signature and seal  Date | |

**Annex-3**

**The microsatellite markers used for the confirmation of parents for cattle are as follows:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Locus** | **Fragment size (bp)** | |
| **Allel 1** | **Allel 2** |
| TGLA227 |  |  |
| BM2113 |  |  |
| TGLA53 |  |  |
| ETH10 |  |  |
| SPS115 |  |  |
| TGLA126 |  |  |
| TGLA122 |  |  |
| INRA23 |  |  |
| ETH3 |  |  |
| ETH225 |  |  |
| BM1824 |  |  |

In the table, the microsatellite markers chosen among those recommended by ISAG (International Society for Animal Genetics) for the determination of parents, and observed via a commercial kit produced by a company called Applied Biosystems are given.

Fragment sizes (Allel 1 and Allel 2 values) obtained for imported bulls via using StockMarks® Bovine Genotyping kit shall be requested from the exporter company and shall be submitted to the MoFAL in order to compare DNA profile.