

THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK
The Directorate General of Livestock

THE TECHNICAL CRITERIA FOR THE IMPORTS OF BREEDING CATTLE

A- Breeding Female Cattle

1. The breeding animals to be imported shall be of the following breeds:
 - a. Dairy breeds; Holstein, Jersey, European Red (Danish Red and Swedish Red)
 - b. Dual-purpose breeds; Simmental (Fleckvieh), Brown Swiss, Montbéliarde
 - c. Beef Breeds; Angus, Charolais, Limousine, Hereford, Belgium Blue
 - d. Buffalos; Mediterranean Buffalo, Jaffarabadi, Murrah
 - e. Import demand for the breeds other than those stated in item 1 shall be evaluated and resolved by the Directorate General of Livestock.
2. The breeding animals, dairy breed/dual purpose pregnant/non-pregnant female animals and pregnant animals of beef breeds which will be imported shall have pedigrees/breeding certificates (purity rate shall be at least 87.5%). Non pregnant animals of beef breeds and buffalos shall have passports, breeding certificates or pedigrees. These documents shall be drawn up and approved by the relevant competent authority of the exporter country.
3. The animals shall bear eartags or microchips for their identification.
4. Dairy/dual purpose breeds shall be progeny-proven or genomic-proven and they shall be the daughters of the bulls of the same breed (This requirement does not apply to beef breeds and buffalos).
5. Pregnant animals shall be inseminated by the semen of the bulls of the same breed. This situation shall be stated in their pedigrees (This requirement does not apply to buffalos).
6. The sire and the progeny of the female cattle of Holstein breed shall not carry the genetic defects such as BLAD, CVM and Brachyspina.
7. The animals shall carry the phenotypic traits of their breeds.
8. The animals shall not have developmental disorders, cachectic, visible physical and orthopedic defects (lameness, blindness, etc.), pathological formations (tumors, abscesses, conjunctivitis, skin diseases, abnormal teats, etc.). Their conformation shall be fine and have a healthy appearance.
9. The animals shall be born and raised in the country of export or in the countries which are approved by the Ministry for the imports of breeding cattle.

10. The milk yield (milk yield records for 305 days) of the dams of dairy/dual-purpose breeds shall not be less than the values stated below (The documents attesting the milk yields for periods less than 180 days shall not be accepted for evaluation. Only in the selection of female calves whose dams are in the first lactation period, milk yield values of the maternal granddam shall be taken into consideration if there are no milk yield records of the dam). These values shall be confirmed via the pedigree of the animal (It shall be sufficient to cover one of these values in the pedigree).

Minimum milk yield values of the dam for 305 days

Breed	Data for the first lactation (Lt)	Average lactation (Lt)
Holstein	8000	8500
Simmental	6000	6500
Brown Swiss	6000	6500
Montbéliarde	6000	6500
Jersey	6000	6500
European Red *	6000	6500
Buffalos **	1800	2000

* Swedish and Danish Red breeds.

** Milk yield of buffalos shall be calculated for a duration of 270 days.

11. On the day of selection, the age of the non-pregnant animals shall be as follows:

Non-pregnant female cattle : 4-15 months old (120-450 days)

Non-pregnant buffalos : 12-24 months old (365-730 days)

12. On the day of selection, the minimum live weight of female cattle shall be as follows:

Breed	Non-pregnant (4-15 months old)** (Kg)	Pregnant (3-7 months old)** (Kg)
Holstein	125 - 350	425 - 500
Simmental	140 - 400	475 - 550
Brown Swiss	135 - 375	475 - 550
Montbéliarde	140 - 400	450 - 525
Jersey	100 - 325	375 - 425
European Red*	135 - 375	440 - 515
Charolais	150 - 450	530 - 625
Limousine	150 - 450	530 - 625
Hereford	140 - 390	490 - 575
Belgium Blue	150 - 450	530 - 625
Angus	140 - 390	490 - 575
Buffalo	200 - 400	450 - 650

*Swedish Red and Danish Red breeds

** The age of non-pregnant buffalos is 12-24 months and the duration of pregnancy is 3-8 months.

13. On the day of selection, the age of pregnant animals at the time of insemination shall be as follows:

- Cattle : 13-22 months old (390-660 days); 13-25 months old (390-750 days) for Simmental, Brown Swiss and Montbéliarde breeds
- Buffalos: 20-40 months old (600-1200 days).

14. On the day of selection, the pregnancy period of animals shall be as follows;

- Cattle : 3-7 months (90-210 days),
- Buffalos : 3-8 months (90-240 days).

B-Breeding Male Cattle

- 1- The breeding male cattle to be imported shall be of beef breeds (buffalos excluded)
- 2- The breeding animals to be imported shall have pedigrees which shall be drawn up and approved by the relevant competent authority of the exporter country, and which shall cover data for at least two generations (their parents and grandparents)
- 3- The breeding animals to be imported shall be progeny-proven or genomic-proven or they shall be the progeny of the bulls of the same breed which are produced by way of artificial insemination.
- 4- On the day of selection, the age of the breeding animals shall be as follows:
 - Cattle : 6 –18 months old (180-540 days)
 - Buffalos: 12–18 months old (365-540 days)
- 5- On the day of selection, the minimum live weight of the breeding animals shall be as follows:
 - Cattle : 6 months old (180 days): 200 kg
 - Buffalos: 12 months old (365 days): 300 kg
- 6- Milk yield of the dams of buffalo bulls for 270 days shall be minimum 1800 kg.
- 7- The animals shall carry the phenotypic traits of their breeds.
- 8- The animals shall not have developmental disorders, cachectic, visible physical and orthopedic defects (lameness, blindness, etc.), pathological formations (tumors, abscesses, conjunctivitis and skin diseases, etc.). Their conformation shall be fine and have a healthy appearance.
- 9- The testicles shall be lowered to the scrotal bladder, shall be symmetrical to each other and there shall be no anomaly.
- 10- The animals shall be born and raised in the country of export or in the countries which are approved by the Ministry for the imports of breeding cattle.

C- Other issues:

- 1- Besides the abovementioned criteria, the Directorate General may require additional information and documents when necessary. Relevant entities are obliged to provide required additional information and documents.
- 2- The technical criteria for the breeding animal to be imported in the scope of the projects of the Ministry, can also be determined by the relevant organization.