**THE TECHNICAL CRITERIA FOR THE IMPORTS OF BREEDING CATTLE**

1. **Breeding Female Cattle**
2. The breeding animals to be imported shall be of the following breeds:
3. Dairy breeds; Holstein, Jersey,
4. Dual-purpose breeds; Simmental (Fleckvieh), Brown Swiss, Montbéliarde
5. Beef Breeds; Angus, Charollais, Limousine, Hereford, Belgium Blue
6. Buffalos; Mediterranean Buffalo, Jaffarabadi, Murrah
7. Import demand for the breeds other than those stated in item 1 shall be evaluated and resolved by the Directorate General of Livestock.
8. The breeding animals to be imported shall have pedigrees/breeding certificates (purity rate shall be at least 87.5%). These documents shall be drawn up and approved by the relevant competent authority of the exporter country or by authorized associations/cooperatives.
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 animals shall bear eartags or microchips for their individual identification.
11. The breeding animals to be imported shall be progeny-proven (progeny testing) or genomic-proven and they shall be the daughters of the bulls of the same breed. This issue shall be stated in their pedigrees. (This requirement does not apply to buffalos).
12. Pregnant animals shall be inseminated by the semen of the bulls of the same breed that are progeny-proven (progeny testing) or genomic-proven. This issue shall be stated in their pedigrees.(This requirement does not apply to buffalos. In addition, for Holstein breed, female animals of B&W Holstein breed shall be inseminated by the semen of the bulls of B&W Holstein, and female animals of R&W Holstein breed shall be inseminated by the semen of the bulls of R&W Holstein).
13. The sire and the progeny of the female cattle of Holstein breed shall not carry the genetic defects such asBLAD, CVM and Brachyspina. This issue shall be stated in their pedigrees.
14. The animals shall carry the phenotypic traits of their breeds.
15. 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.
16. 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 in the table below. If the dam in the first lactation period the 1st lactation, if it has more than one lactation periods, average lactation shall be taken into account and values shall not be below the values for 305 days given in the table. The documents attesting the milk yields of their dams for periods less than 180 days shall not be accepted for evaluation; however, milk yield values of the maternal granddam shall be taken into consideration in the selection of female calves whose dams are in the first lactation period, if there are no milk yield records of their dam or the milk yield is below 180 days. The milk yield values of the maternal granddam shall not be less than the values for 305 days stated in the table below. 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 |
| Buffalos \*\* | 1800 | 2000 |

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

1. 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 (360-720 days)

1. 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)\*\***  **(Kg)** |
| Holstein | 125 - 400 | 425 - 500 |
| Simmental | 140 - 450 | 475 - 550 |
| Brown Swiss | 135 - 400 | 475 - 550 |
| Montbéliarde | 140 - 400 | 450 - 525 |
| Jersey | 100 - 325 | 375 - 425 |
| Charollais | 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 |

\*\* The age of non-pregnant buffalos is 12-24 months old (360-720 days) and the duration of pregnancy is 3-8 months (90-240 days).

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

- Cattle : 13-20 months old (390-600 days); 13-22 months old (390-660 days) for Simmental, Montbéliarde and Brown Swiss breeds,

- Buffalos : 20-40 months old (600-1200 days).

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

-Cattle : 3-7 months old (90-210 days),

-Buffalos : 3-8 months old (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 of their parents (their parents and grandparents)
  3. The breeding animals to be imported shall be the progeny of the bulls of the same breed which are progeny-proven (progeny testing) or genomic-proven. (This requirement does not apply to buffalos).
  4. The animals shall bear eartags/ microchips, etc. for their individual identification.
  5. On the day of selection, the age of the breeding animals shall be as follows:

- Cattle : 6 –18 months old (180-540 days)

- Buffalos : 12–24 months old (360-720 days)

* 1. 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 (360 days): 300 kg

* 1. Milk yield of the dams of buffalo bulls for 270 days shall be minimum 1800 kg.
  2. The animals shall carry the phenotypic traits of their breeds.
  3. 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.
  4. The testicles shall be lowered to the scrotal bladder, shall be symmetrical to each other and there shall be no anomaly.

**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.