

98/590

11 December 2000

ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2000/56

IMPORTATION OF GIRAFFE SEMEN FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECISION ON QUARANTINE CONDITIONS

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides final quarantine requirements for the importation of giraffe semen from the United States of America (USA) (Attachment A). The conditions come into effect on 11 December 2000.

ABPM 2000/49 of 25 September 2000 proposed draft quarantine requirements for the importation of giraffe semen from USA. Comments were received from three stakeholders. A summary of comments and Animal Biosecurity's response is at Attachment B.

Animal Biosecurity has carefully considered these comments and made two modifications to the final import requirements:

- 1. The semen will be shipped chilled and therefore the requirement for the semen to be stored in a liquid nitrogen container is not appropriate and has been deleted.
- 2. There are few reports of bovine tuberculosis in giraffes and importantly, tuberculin testing has not been validated in giraffes. The requirement that donors test negative on two occasions to the intradermal tuberculin test has been changed to require that bovine tuberculosis has not been diagnosed in the donors and in animals in the zoo population/s in which the donor giraffe has been held during the past five years.

Next Steps

These conditions come into effect immediately.

We would be grateful if you would pass details of this notice to other interested parties, who should advise the contact officer if they wish to be included in future communications on this matter. Inquiries should be directed to the officer whose contact details appear below.

Department of AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY - AUSTRALIA

Confidentiality

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

DAVID BANKS A/g General Manager Animal Biosecurity

Contact Officer: Judith Bourne
Telephone no: (02) 6272 5778
Facsimile no: (02) 6272 3399

E-mail: judith.bourne@affa.gov.au

Comments on draft conditions for the importation of giraffe semen from the United States of America

ABPM 2000/49 of 25 September 2000

Stakeholder Comment	Animal Biosecurity response
Queried the basis for the requirement for bovine tuberculosis testing of donors.	The conditions have been changed and the requirement for bovine tuberculosis testing deleted.
Queried the requirement for semen to be stored in liquid nitrogen.	This requirement has been deleted.
Semen only survives 3-4 days and timing will be critical, particularly with regard to AQIS auditing the contents of the shipping container (Clause 3.1).	Noted. AQIS inspectors to be advised of this and requested to audit contents expeditiously.
The draft conditions are suitable for the safe import of giraffe semen from the USA.	Noted: no action required.
The draft conditions are believed to be sound.	Noted: no action required.