

# **Animal Health Requirements for the Importation of Ferrets (*Mustela putorius furo*) for Research Purposes**

(In case of any discrepancy between the English version and the Chinese text of these Requirements, the Chinese text shall govern.)

- 1.1 The following information of application for the approval of importing laboratory ferrets (*Mustela putorius furo*) has to be submitted by the institutions of animal science (hereinafter referred to as the “institutions”) defined by the Animal Protection Act to the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country:
  - 1.1.1 Name, address and telephone number of the applicant and name of the responsible person;
  - 1.1.2 Name and address of the establishment of origin and exporting country;
  - 1.1.3 Type and quantity, sex, scientific name and common name of the laboratory animals;
  - 1.1.4 Establishments of raising and experiments (including reproduction for research purposes);
  - 1.1.5 Experimental projects (including reproduction for research purposes) and affidavit of approval of Experimental Animal Care and Use Committee or Panel.
- 1.2 Before accepting the application, the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country may dispatch officers to conduct on-site audits at the places indicated in Article 1.1.4, and the decision whether the approval letter for importation is issued or other tests or quarantine requirements are required is made according to the results of on-site audits.
2. For the importation of ferrets for research purposes, the following requirements shall be complied with:
  - 2.1 The following information of application for the approval of importing laboratory animals has to be submitted by the institutions to the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country. The import/export animal quarantine authority may dispatch officers to conduct on-site audits if necessary. The expenditure is at the exporting country’s expense. For exporting country which has signed bilateral or multilateral agreement with the importing country, the expenses should be shouldered according to the agreement.
    - 2.1.1 Name, address and telephone number of the establishment of origin.
    - 2.1.2 Species of animals for research purposes.
    - 2.1.3 The plan of monitoring animal diseases and the health monitoring report for the latest 6 months prior to application.

- 2.1.4 The specimen of veterinary certificate in compliance with the requirements stipulated in Article 3.
- 2.2 The ferrets for research purposes shall originate from research institutes of the government and universities of the exporting country, or juridical persons that are recognized as conducting routine healthy examinations on animals for research purposes by the competent authority of the exporting country and comply with the requirements mentioned in Article 2.1.
- 2.3 Establishments of origin have not conducted the inoculation tests against FMD, CSF, CBPP, ASF, AHS, glanders, PPR, H5 and H7 subtype avian influenza, ND, and rabies.
- 2.4 No cases of rabies or tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*, *M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis*) have been confirmed in establishments of origin in the previous year.
- 2.5 The rabies inactivated vaccine is administered at the age of 90 days or older and the vaccination date has to be between 30 days to 1 year prior to the exporting date.
- 2.6 Prior to export, the ferrets shall be examined and must be in a healthy condition without any clinical signs of animal diseases.
3. For the importation of ferrets for research purposes shall be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate issued by the veterinarians of the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country. The certificate shall state the following information in English or Chinese:
- 3.1 Type and origin of the animals:
- 3.1.1 Scientific name and common name;
- 3.1.2 Total quantity;
- 3.1.3 Sex, age or date of birth, and microchip;
- 3.1.4 The exporting country;
- 3.1.5 Name and address of the establishment of origin; and
- 3.1.6 Name and address of exporter.
- 3.2 Destination:
- 3.2.1 Country of destination; and
- 3.2.2 Name and address of the importer.
- 3.3 Result of the quarantine:
- 3.3.1 Statements attesting that the animals comply with the following requirements:
- 3.3.1.1 The statement attesting that ferrets for research purposes fulfill the requirements stipulated in Articles 2.2 to 2.6.
- 3.3.2 The dates of the inactivated vaccines against rabies administered on ferrets for research purposes.
- 3.4 Date of issuance, name and official stamp of the issuing authority, and name and

signature of the issuing officer.

- 4.1 After importation, the institutions shall comply with the following requirements within 6 months of importing ferrets for research purposes:
  - 4.1.1 The use of laboratory animals shall follow the experimental project. Any changes of the experimental purpose, the quantity of laboratory animals, the location of experiment and the place for raising the animals shall be approved in advance by the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country.
  - 4.1.2 Any cause of death shall notify the import/export animal quarantine authority.
  - 4.1.3 The institutions shall not evade, impede, or reject the on-site audit conducted by the import/export animal quarantine authority of the importing country.
- 4.2 While the institutions violate the requirements mentioned in Articles 4.1.1 to 4.1.3, applications submitted by the institutions may be rejected by the import/export animal quarantine authority within 1 year of the importation of the animals.
5. If any infectious animal disease occurs in the establishment of origin, the exporting country shall suspend the exportation and notify the import/export animal quarantine authority.
6. The animals for research purposes shall be transported in cargo holds with clean containers which have been treated with disinfectant approved by the competent authority of the exporting country. No additional feed, straw and forage, bedding or other susceptible animals are allowed to be loaded en route to the destination. The means of transport and transit shall comply with the World Organisation for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).