

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 29 January 1993

concerning animal health conditions and veterinary certificates for the importation of domestic animals of the bovine species and health protection measures in respect of imports of domestic animals of the porcine species from Latvia

(93/181/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine, ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat or meat products from third countries⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1601/92⁽²⁾, and in particular Articles 8 and 11 thereof,

Whereas Member States shall import domestic animals of the bovine and porcine species in accordance with the provisions of Directive 91/496/EEC⁽³⁾, as last amended by Decision 92/438/EEC⁽⁴⁾;

Whereas, following Community veterinary missions, it appears that the animal health situation in Latvia is supervised by veterinary services which although currently in the process of reorganization can offer satisfactory guarantees concerning diseases which might be transmitted through the importation of domestic animals of the bovine species;

Whereas the veterinary authorities of Latvia have confirmed that Latvia has during the last 24 months been free from foot-and-mouth disease and has during the last 12 months been free from rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia, vesicular stomatitis, bluetongue, classical swine fever, African swine fever, porcine enteroviral encephalomyelitis (Teschen disease), swine vesicular disease and vesicular exanthema and that no vaccinations have been carried out against any of those diseases other than classical swine fever during the past 12 months;

Whereas the fact that Latvia carries out vaccination against classical swine fever precludes the importation into the Community of live pigs for the time being;

Whereas the veterinary authorities of Latvia have undertaken to notify the Commission and the Member States, by telex or telefax, within 24 hours, of the confirmation of the occurrence of any of the abovementioned diseases or of the adoption of vaccination against any of them or, within an appropriate period, of any proposed changes in the Latvian import rules concerning bovine animals or swine;

Whereas bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis have been virtually eradicated from Latvia; whereas vaccination against bovine brucellosis is not permitted; whereas the measures taken by the responsible authorities of Latvia to prevent a recurrence of those diseases are sufficient to equate the status of Latvian herds, other than those under official restrictions, with that of herds in the Community having the status of officially tuberculosis-free officially brucellosis-free;

Whereas the veterinary authorities of Latvia have undertaken to supervise officially the issue of certificates arising from this Decision and to ensure that all relevant certificates, declarations and statements on which export certification may have been based remain on official file for at least 12 months following the dispatch of the animals to which they refer;

Whereas the veterinary authorities of Latvia have undertaken not to permit the certificates described in the Annexes to this Decision to be issued in respect of animals which have been imported into Latvia unless such animals were imported in accordance with veterinary conditions at least as strict as the relevant requirement of Directive 72/462/EEC, and any relevant decisions relating thereto;

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 28.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 173, 27. 6. 1992, p. 13.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 268, 24. 9. 1991, p. 56.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 243, 25. 8. 1992, p. 27.

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. Without prejudice to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 Member States shall authorize the importation from Latvia of the following animals:

- (a) domestic animals of the bovine species for breeding or production which meet the requirements set out in the health certificate in Annex A and which are accompanied by such a certificate;
- (b) domestic animals of the bovine species for slaughter which meet the requirements set out in the health certificate in Annex B and which are accompanied by such a certificate.

2. Member States shall authorize the importation from Latvia of domestic animals of the bovine species indicated in paragraph 1 which have been imported into Latvia only if such animals were imported from the Community or from a third country included in the list annexed to Council Decision 79/542/EEC⁽¹⁾ in so far as it covers domestic animals of that species and only if the importation was made in accordance with veterinary conditions at least as strict as the requirements of Chapter II of Directive 72/462/EEC, and any relevant decisions relating thereto.

3. Member States shall require that animals which are subjected to tests pursuant to this Decision be continuously isolated, under conditions approved by an official veterinarian of Latvia, from all cloven-hoofed animals not intended for export to the Community or not equivalent in health status to such animals from the time of the first of such tests to the time of loading.

4. Member States shall permit the entry onto their territory from Latvia of bovine animals only if such animals:

- (a) come from herds declared by the veterinary authorities of Latvia to be free of enzootic bovine leukosis as defined in Annex C to this Decision and have been subjected, within 30 days before export and with negative result, to an individual test for enzootic bovine leukosis carried out according to the protocol in Annex I to Commission Decision 91/189/EEC⁽²⁾;

or

- (b) are intended for meat production, are not more than 30 months of age, come from herds which are included in a national programme for the eradication of enzootic bovine leukosis and in which there has been no evidence whatever of that disease for at least

two years and are permanently marked as described in Annex D to this Decision;

or

- (c) come from herds which are included in a national programme for the eradication of enzootic bovine leukosis, are consigned directly to a slaughterhouse and are slaughtered within five working days of their arrival there.

In the case of the animals referred to in (b) and (c), Member States shall ensure, by inspection, that such animals are clearly identified, shall supervise them until slaughter and shall take all measures to prevent contamination of indigenous herds.

Article 2

Member States may apply in respect of animals imported from Latvia such additional health conditions as they apply to other animals within the framework of a national programme, submitted to and approved by the Commission, for the eradication, prevention or control of disease.

As a temporary measure until 31 December 1993, Member States may apply this Article in respect of national programmes which have been submitted to but not yet approved by the Commission, but in that event they must, without delay, provide the Commission and the other Member States with details of the relevant conditions.

Article 3

Member States shall make the introduction into their territory of bovine animals from Latvia subject to a guarantee that the animals to be imported have not been vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease.

Article 4

Member States shall not authorize the importation of domestic animals of the porcine species from Latvia.

Article 5

This Decision shall apply from the 60th day after its notification to the Member States.

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 29 January 1993.

For the Commission

René STEICHEN

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 146, 14. 6. 1979, p. 15.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 96, 17. 4. 1991, p. 1

ANNEX A

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

(This certificate must accompany the consignment. It covers only animals in the same category — breeding or production — transported in the same railway wagon, lorry, aircraft or ship and consigned to the same destination. It must be completed on the date of loading and all time limits referred to expire on that date.)

for domestic animals of the bovine species for breeding and production intended for consignment to the European Economic Community

No:

Exporting country: Latvia

Ministry:

Competent issuing authority:

Country of destination:

Reference:
(Optional)

Reference to accompanying animal welfare certificate:

I. Number of animals:
(In words)

II. Identification of animals:

Number of animals	Cow, bull, ox, heifer, calf	Breed	Age	Official and other marks or brands (give number and position)

III. Origin of animals:

Names and addresses of farms of origin:
.....
.....

IV. Destination of animals:

The animals will be sent
from:
(Place of loading)
to:
(Place of destination)

by railway wagon/lorry/ aircraft/ ship:
(Indicate means of transport and registration marks, flight number or registered name, as appropriate)

Name and address of consignor:
.....

Name and address of consignee:
.....

V. Health information:

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby certify:

1. that Latvia has during the past 24 months been free from foot-and-mouth disease and during the past 12 months been free from rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia, vesicular stomatitis and bluetongue, that no vaccinations have been carried out against any of these diseases during the past 12 months and that the importation of animals vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease is prohibited;
2. that the animals described in this certificate meet the following requirements:
 - (a) — they were born on the territory of Latvia and have remained there since birth,
or
— they were imported, not less than six months ago, from a Member State of the European Community or from a third country included in the list annexed to Council Decision 79/542/EEC, in accordance with veterinary conditions at least as strict as the relevant requirements of Council Directive 72/462/EEC, including any subsidiary decisions;
(Delete unwanted reference)
 - (b) they have been examined this day and show no clinical signs of disease;
 - (c) they have not been vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease;
 - (d) they come from herds which are not restricted under the Latvian tuberculosis eradication legislation,
— they have been subjected within the past 30 days and with negative result to an intradermal tuberculin test;
(Delete reference to test if certificate applies to animals under six weeks old)
 - (e) they come from herds which are not restricted under the Latvian brucellosis eradication legislation,
— they have been subjected within the past 30 days to a serum agglutination test which showed a brucella count of less than 30 international units of agglutination per ml,
— they have not been vaccinated against brucellosis;
(Delete reference to test if certificate applies to animals under 12 months old or to male castrates of any age)
 - (f) — they come from herds declared by the Latvian veterinary authorities to be enzootic bovine leukosis free as defined in Annex C to Commission Decision 93/181/EEC and have been subjected, within the past 30 days and with negative result, to an individual test for enzootic bovine leukosis,
or
— they are intended for meat production, are not more than 30 months of age, come from herds which are included in a national programme for the eradication of enzootic bovine leukosis and in which there has been no evidence whatever of that disease during the past two years and are marked in the manner defined in Annex D to Decision 93/181/EEC;
(Delete according to the category of animal to which this certificate applies)
 - (g) they show no clinical sign of mastitis and the analysis (and second analysis, where relevant) of the milk carried out according to Annex D to Council Directive 64/432/EEC within the past 30 days showed no characteristic inflammatory condition, no specific pathogenic micro-organism or, in the case of a second analysis, the presence of an antibiotic;
(Delete section unless certificate applies to dairy cows)
 - (h) they are not animals which are to be destroyed under a national contagious or infectious disease eradication programme;
 - (i) they have remained during the past 30 days, or since birth if less than 30 days old, on a holding or holdings situated in the centre of a circle 20 km in diameter in which, according to official findings by the Latvian veterinary authorities, during the past 30 days there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease;
 - (j) they come from holdings on which there has been no evidence of:
 - anthrax for the past 30 days,
 - brucellosis for the past 12 months,
 - tuberculosis for the past six months,
 - rabies for the past six months;

- (k) they have been subjected with negative result to the following test(s) and conform to the following guarantees, as required by a Member State in application of Article 2 of Decision 93/181/EEC

.....;
(Complete or delete as required by importing Member State)

- (l) they have been continuously isolated under conditions approved by an official veterinarian from all cloven-hoofed animals not intended for export to the Community or not of equivalent health status to such animals since the time of application of the first of the tests referred to in this certificate;
- (m) they have received no thyrostatic, oestrogenic, androgenic and gēstagenic substances for fattening purposes;
- (n) they have been obtained directly from a holding or holdings without passing through any market, and were loaded at

(Name of loading place. Delete if not applicable)

and until dispatched onto the territory of the European Community they did not come into contact with any cloven-hoofed animals other than bovine animals meeting the requirements of Decision 93/181/EEC and were not at any place other than a place situated at the centre of a circle 20 km in diameter in which, according to official findings by the Latvian veterinary authorities, there had been no incidence of foot-and-mouth disease during the previous 30 days;

- (o) any transport vehicles or containers in which they were loaded conform to international standards for the transport of live animals, were previously cleansed and disinfected with an officially authorized disinfectant and so constructed that faeces, urine, litter or fodder could not flow or fall out of the vehicle during transportation.

VI. All tests referred to in this certificate have, except where otherwise indicated, been carried out according to the Protocols set out in Annex I to Commission Decision 91/189/EEC. All loading places through which the animals have passed conform to the standards set out in Annex II to the same Decision.

VII. This certificate is valid for 10 days from the date of loading.

Done at, on

.....
(Signature of official veterinarian, who must be a veterinarian in the whole-time employment of the State of Latvia whose name and relevant details are currently included in the list, submitted to the European Commission by the national veterinary authority of Latvia, of veterinarians authorized to certify live animals for export to the European Community)

(Seal) (1)

.....
(Name in capital letters, qualifications and title)

(1) In a colour other than black.

ANNEX B

ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

(This certificate must accompany the consignment. It covers only animals transported in the same railway wagon, lorry, aircraft or ship, consigned to the same destination and intended to be taken immediately on arrival in the Member State of destination direct to a slaughterhouse and to be slaughtered not later than five working days after their entry in accordance with Article 13 of Council Directive 72/462/EEC. It must be completed on the date of loading and all time limits referred to expire on that date.)

for domestic bovine animals for immediate slaughter intended for consignment to the European Economic Community

No:

Exporting country: Latvia

Ministry:

Competent issuing authority:

Country of destination:

Reference:
(Optional)

Reference to accompanying animal welfare certificate:

I. Number of animals:
(In words)

II. Identification of animals:

Number of animals	Cow, bull, ox, heifer, calf	Breed	Age	Official and other marks or brands (give number and position)

III. Origin of animals:

Name(s) and address(es) of farm(s) of origin:
.....
.....

IV. Destination of animals:

The animals will be sent
from:
(Place of loading)
to:
(Place of destination)

by railway wagon/lorry/aircraft/ship:
(Indicate means of transport and registration marks, flight number or registered name, as appropriate)

Name and address of consignor:
.....

Name and address of consignee:
.....

V. Health information:

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, hereby certify:

1. that Latvia has during the past 24 months been free from foot-and-mouth disease and during the past 12 months been free from rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia, vesicular stomatitis and bluetongue, that no vaccinations have been carried out against any of these diseases during the past 12 months and that the importation of animals vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease is prohibited;
2. that the animals described in this certificate meet the following requirements:
 - (a) — they were born on the territory of Latvia and have remained there since birth,
or
— they were imported, not less than three months ago, from a Member State of the European Community or from a third country included in the list annexed to Council Decision 79/542/EEC, in accordance with veterinary conditions at least as strict as the relevant requirements of Directive 72/462/EEC, including any subsidiary decisions;
(Delete unwanted reference)
 - (b) they have been examined this day and show no clinical signs of disease;
 - (c) they have not been vaccinated against foot-and-mouth disease;
 - (d) they come from herds which are not restricted under the Latvian tuberculosis eradication legislation,
— they have been subjected within the past 30 days and with negative result to an intradermal tuberculin test;
(Delete reference to the test if certificate applies to animals under six weeks old)
 - (e) they come from herds which are not restricted under the Latvian brucellosis eradication legislation,
— they have not been vaccinated against brucellosis;
 - (f) they come from herds included in a national programme for the eradication of enzootic bovine leukosis;
 - (g) they are not animals which are to be destroyed under a national contagious or infectious disease eradication programme;
 - (h) they have remained during the past 30 days, or since birth if less than 30 days old, on a holding or holdings situated in the centre of a circle 20 km in diameter in which, according to official findings by the Latvian veterinary authorities, during the past 30 days there has been no case of foot-and-mouth disease;
 - (i) they come from holdings on which there has been no evidence of anthrax for the past 30 days;
 - (j) they have been subjected with negative result to the following test(s) and conform to the following guarantees, as required by a Member State in application of Article 2 of Commission Decision 93/181/EEC
.....;
(Complete or delete as required by importing Member State)
 - (k) they have been continuously isolated under conditions approved by an official veterinarian from all cloven-hoofed animals not intended for export to the Community or not of equivalent health status to such animals since the time of application of the first of the tests referred to in this certificate;
 - (l) they have received no thyrostatic, oestrogenic, androgenic or gestagenic substances for fattening purposes;
 - (m) they have been obtained directly from a holding or holdings without passing through any market, and were loaded at
(Name of loading place. Delete if not applicable)

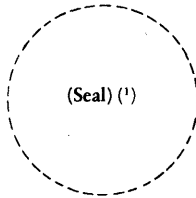
and until dispatched onto the territory of the European Community they did not come into contact with any cloven-hoofed animals other than bovine animals meeting the requirements of Decision 93/181/EEC and were not at any place other than a place situated at the centre of a circle 20 km in diameter in which, according to official findings by the veterinary authorities of Latvia, there had been no incidence of foot-and-mouth disease during the previous 30 days;

(n) any transport vehicles or containers in which they were loaded conform to international standards for the transport of live animals, were previously cleansed and disinfected with an officially authorized disinfectant and so constructed that faeces, urine, litter or fodder could not flow or fall out of the vehicle during transportation.

VI. All tests referred to in this certificate have been carried out according to the Protocols set out in Annex I to Commission Decision 91/189/EEC. All loading places through which the animals have passed conform to the standards set out in Annex II to the same Decision.

VII. This certificate is valid for 10 days from the date of loading.

Done at, on



.....
(Signature of official veterinarian, who must be a veterinarian in the whole-time employment of the State of Latvia whose name and relevant details are currently included in the list, submitted to the European Commission by the national veterinary authority of Latvia, of veterinarians authorized to certify live animals for export to the European Community)

.....
(Name in capital letters, qualifications and title)

(1) In a colour other than black.

ANNEX C

ENZOOTIC BOVINE LEUKOSIS-FREE HERDS AND REGIONS

1. A herd becomes established as enzootic bovine leukosis-free when:
 - (a) (i) there has been no evidence whatever of enzootic bovine leukosis in the herd for a period of at least two years;
and
 - (ii) it has been subjected with negative result to two herd tests for enzootic bovine leukosis at an interval of not less than four and not more than 12 months, each herd test consisting of one of the serological tests described in Annex I to Commission Decision 91/189/EEC applied to all bovine animals in the herd over 24 months of age on the date of the test;or
 - (b) the region in which it is situated becomes established as an enzootic bovine leukosis-free region, provided the status of the herd is not at the time suspended under the terms of paragraph 5.
2. A region becomes established as enzootic bovine leukosis-free when:
 - (a) at least 99,8 % of bovine herds have the status of enzootic bovine leukosis-free;or
 - (b) (i) there has been no evidence whatever of enzootic bovine leukosis in the region for a period of at least three years;
and
 - (ii) all bovine herds in the region have been subjected to at least one herd test as described in paragraph 1;
and
 - (iii) at least 10 % of bovine herds in the region, selected on a random basis, have been subjected with negative result to at least two herd tests as described in paragraph 1.
3. A herd maintains its status as enzootic bovine leukosis-free as long as:
 - (a) there is no evidence whatever of enzootic bovine leukosis in the herd;
and
 - (b) all the bovine animals in the herd were born there or were introduced from herds of enzootic bovine leukosis-free status;
and
 - (c) within three years of the date of its establishment as enzootic bovine leukosis-free, and at intervals of not more than three years thereafter, it is subjected with negative result to a herd test as described in paragraph 1.
4. A region maintains its status as enzootic bovine leukosis-free as long as:
 - (a) each year, a proportion of the herds in the region, selected on a random basis and sufficient in number to demonstrate, with a 99 % confidence rating, that not more than 0,2 % of herds are infected with enzootic bovine leukosis, have been subjected to a herd test as described in paragraph 1;or
 - (b) each year, a proportion of the herds in the region, sufficient to contain at least 20 % of the bovine animals in the region over 24 months of age, have been subjected with negative result to a herd test as described in paragraph 1.
5. The enzootic bovine leukosis-free status of a herd is suspended when:
 - (a) the conditions described in paragraph 3 cease to apply;or
 - (b) one or more animals give a positive result to one of the serological tests described in Annex I to Decision 91/189/EEC.
6. The enzootic bovine leukosis-free status of a region is suspended when:
 - (a) the conditions described in paragraph 4 cease to apply;or
 - (b) enzootic bovine leukosis is detected and confirmed in more than 0,2 % of bovine herds in the region.

7. The enzootic bovine leukosis-free status of a herd is re-established when:
- (a) any reactor animal and, if the reactor is a cow, its progeny in the herd have been removed under the supervision of the veterinary authorities for slaughter, except that the competent authority may grant a derogation from the requirement for the removal of the progeny of a reactor cow if it is satisfied that the animal(s) was/were separated from its/their dam immediately after birth;
and
 - (b) (i) if the suspension results from a positive test on a single animal, the herd has been subjected with negative result and not less than three months after the withdrawal referred to in paragraph 7 (a) to a herd test as described in paragraph 1;
or
(ii) if the suspension results from a positive test on more than one animal, the herd has been subjected to two herd tests as described in paragraph 1, the first being applied not less than three months after the withdrawal referred to in paragraph 7 (a) and the second not less than four or more than 12 months later, the tests to include any progeny of a reactor cow retained in the herd under the derogation referred to in paragraph 7 (a), regardless of their age at the time of test;
and
 - (c) an epizootological enquiry has been conducted on all herds epizootologically linked to the infected herd.
8. The enzootic bovine leukosis-free status of a region is re-established when:
- (a) at least 99,8 % of bovine herds in the region have the status of enzootic bovine leukosis-free;
and
 - (b) at least 20 % of bovine herds in the region have been subjected with negative result to two herd tests as described in paragraph 1, at an interval of not less than four and not more than 12 months.

ANNEX D

Mark to be applied to bovine animals in application of Article 1 (4) (b)

A permanent mark, having the dimensions indicated below, applied to and visible on at least two places on the hind-quarters of each animal using the technique known as 'freeze-branding'.

