

WILDLIFE CERTIFICATION

Some Principles


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- Correct and responsible certification for international trade is crucial
- Also has national implications with regard to food safety.



- OIE Guidelines as basis
 - Does not cover wildlife certification specifically
- Royal College guidelines
- Country specific guidelines – Veterinary Procedural Notice

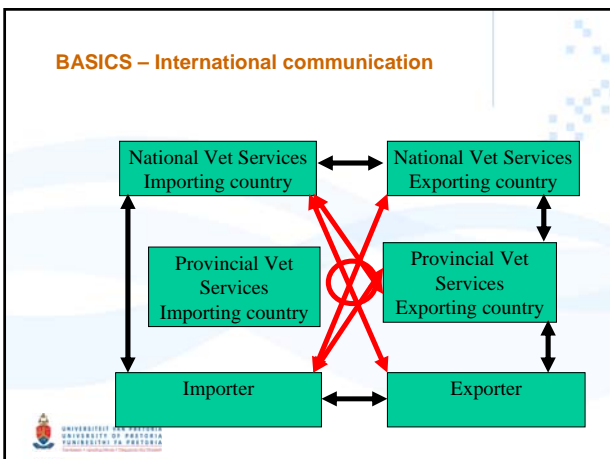


BASICS – OIE Code


- “Certification requirements should be exact and concise, and should clearly convey the wishes of the importing country”

1. Importing country makes the rules
2. Exporting country must comply
3. Certificate must be accurate

Equivalence.

- Farmed game issues very similar /identical to free-living wildlife
- Live animals
- Trophies
- Hides and skins
- Edible products – meat etc.
- Issues of certification are the same, but difficulties of **surveillance!**



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Importing country makes the rule

Exporting country must comply
Certificate must be accurate

- Different countries = different requirements
- No 'standard' health certificate
 - HC must comply with importing country requirements
- Exporter must get requirements
- How/where?
 - - Import permit issued to importer
 - - EU Directives / Federal Regulations of USA
 - - Letter from Veterinary Administration
 - - National VS to National VS



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- What if there are no import conditions?
 - Written confirmation from importing country
 - Issued by Veterinary Services
 - Certify basic health, but be responsible
 - Refer to National VS for liaison with importing country
 - If all else fails – indemnity from exporter



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- Example
 - Zebra to be exported to "Eastern" Zoo
 - Exporter: health certificate should only state that the animals are healthy
 - Unable to make direct contact with relevant Vet Services
 - What diseases should we be concerned about?
 - Decide to test for AHS
 - **Tested positive!**
 - Now what?



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- If all the requirements can be met
 - >>>> **issue certificate**
- What if we can not comply?
 - **Highly unlikely, probably never...**
 - Or
 - Maybe, almost...**



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- **Highly unlikely, probably never...**
- Eg Country freedom for endemic diseases - bluetongue
 - Area freedom for diseases not notifiable / controlled
 - Certification for things not within our mandate
- Have requirements changed via exporter - importer
- or
- Send to National Vet Services to negotiate
 - Copy of requirements
 - Specify clauses that cannot be certified
 - Where possible, suggest alternatives



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- **Maybe, almost...**
- Eg. Tests done, but not within time limit
- Trophies, game skins /products treated, but not according to requirements
- Consignments cannot be sealed for practical reasons
- Request deviation / dispensation
 - Only if reasonable, not increased risk
 - Who applies for dispensation?
 - Importing country must give **written** dispensation
 - Dispensation only valid for specific import permit
- Can request dispensation through National VS



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- **Why???**
- National Implications
 - International credibility
 - Current and future exports
- Personal implications
 - Disciplinary action, no more certificates, etc
 - SAVC



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- **Who certifies what?**
- Private Vet
 - Clinical examination of game / wildlife
 - Sample collection – can be under supervision
 - Gives certificate to SV
- State Vet
 - Area and country freedom
 - Officially approved facilities
 - Provides final export certificate



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- Article published in Veterinary Record
- What do we learn from this?
- **1. Never take the word of importer/exporter**
- **2. In the end, you're responsible**



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When to sign and when not to

- **CERTIFY ONLY WHAT YOU CAN VERIFY!!**
- Animals are clinically healthy
- South Africa (country) is free of Rinderpest
- The area of origin is free of RVF for 12 months
- No clinical cases of LSD in herd of origin for 6 months - springbuck
- Ostriches tested negative for NAI and NCD
- Identification of animals to be shipped
- Zebra were tested for AHS - ? implications
- Game skins for salted for 28 days prior to export
- Rhino were tested by comparative intra-dermal test for TB



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When to sign and when not to

- **NO FINANCIAL INTEREST**
- **Can you be regarded as unbiased if:**
 - You are the exporter
 - You are offered a 10% share of the profits
 - You are paid US\$100 per animal exported for your effort
 - You are the owner of the exported animals
 - What about payments for certificates issued?



Importing
Expc

Ce

- spongiform encephalopathy of cattle – during last 5 years;

Frc

- African pestilence of pigs; African pestilence of cattle – during last 3 years on the territory of the country;

Сибирский ячмень (сибирский ячмень) - это заболевание, вызванное бактерией *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*.

Сибирский ячмень, птичий грипп – during last 3 months.

The skins of animals are checked for the Siberian ulcer – the result is negative.



Health attestation/ Санитарное свидетельство


I, the undersigned official veterinarian, declare that I have read and understood Regulation (RF) No 13-8-01/3-8 dated 28/09/03 and certify that the game trophies described above were received from the animals and birds originating from the territories free from infectious diseases, including those listed in the above Regulation. The game trophies described above/ Я, нижеподписавшийся официальный ветеринарный врач, подтверждаю, что прочел и понял Постановление № 13-8-01/3-8 от 28.09.03 и удостоверяю, что вышеперечисленные охотничьи трофеи были получены от животных и птиц, происходящих из территорий, официально свободных от заразных болезней животных, включая болезни, перечисленные в вышеуказанном Постановлении. Вышеперечисленные охотничьи трофеи

have been packaged, immediately after treatment, without being in contact with other products of animal origin likely to contaminate them, in individual, transparent and closed packages so as to avoid any subsequent contamination/ были упакованы сразу после обработки, без контакта с другими продуктами животного происхождения, способными их загрязнить, в индивидуальных, прозрачных и закрытых упаковках, чтобы избежать дальнейшего загрязнения.

I have read and understood Regulation (RF) No 13-8-01/3-8 dated 28/09/03

animals and birds originating from the territories free from infectious diseases

those listed in the above Regulation.



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How to prepare the certificate

- No blanks!
- Alterations – when you can't and when you can
- Deletions – when you can't and when you must
- Making yourself understood
- One document
- Details
- Originals, copies, duplicates



Officially Approved Establishments

- What are they?
- When must a facility be officially approved?
- Where do I get the requirements?
- Frequency of inspection
- Who should do inspections?
- What do I inspect for?

