



The State of Israel

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development **Tourist information – Import of animals to Israel**

1 Import of animals accompanied by owners

Pet dogs, cats, birds, rabbits and rodents which are not considered wildlife, up to two of each type, accompanied by their owners, are exempt from a veterinary import permit provided that:

- a. A veterinary health certificate, issued by a government veterinary officer in the country of origin within 7 days prior to export is attached, stating that the animals were examined, found healthy, free from infectious and contagious diseases, and that a declaration has been received from the owner stating that the animals have been in his/her possession for at least the last 90 days.
- b. An international certificate of vaccination stating that the dogs or cats have been vaccinated against rabies, not more than a year and not less than a month prior to shipment to Israel*.
- c. Dogs and cats, younger than 3 months will not be admitted.

Following details of every import of animals must be notified to the office of the veterinary services, beit-dagan, at least 48 hours prior to arrival to Israel, fax no. 972-3-9688963: owner, animal species, age, flight no. and approximate time of arrival. Animals arriving in good health and properly certified will generally not be quarantined.

- 2 Dogs, cats, birds, rabbits and rodents more than two of each, or such animals arriving unaccompanied by their owners and other animal species arriving with or without their owners, require a veterinary import permit, issued by the director of veterinary services. A written application for such a permit is to be presented with a payable cheque for the fees, by a person living in Israel, not less than 10 days before the planned date of departure of the animals.

The application shall include: 1) animal species; 2) sex; 3) breed; 4) age; 5) date of expected arrival in Israel; 6) country of origin; 7) other details, and should be addressed to:

The director of veterinary services/import-export officer, P.O.Box 12, Beit-Dagan 50250, Israel
Fax no.: 972-3-9688963 or Fax no.: 972-3-9605194.

The permit, if granted, will include all needed veterinary conditions and requirements pertaining to the referred animal.

- 3 The introduction of wild animals or animals whose usual habitat is not amongst human beings, regardless to their origins requires furthermore a written permission in advance from the nature reserves authority, Jerusalem, Tel no. 02-5005463, Fax no.: 02-5005459.
- 4 The importation of monkeys to Israel is prohibited.
- 5 Importation of horses – an application for the importation of horses shall be made not less than 60 days before their planned departure, to enable the completion of required tests and attestations to be made abroad.
- 6 Quarantine – unaccompanied animals, or such which require an import permit, shall be quarantined in an official quarantine station for a period of 8 days or as decided upon by the director.
- 7 Refusal or destruction of animals – animals arriving in Israel without the above mentioned documents will be returned to the countries of origin at the owner's expense, or destroyed, as stated by law.

Chief Import & export veterinary officer

* Except from Ukraine, Great Britain, Japan and Cyprus, such dogs have to be vaccinated against rabies within 5 days after arrival.