



August 30, 2024

Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service  
  
Veterinary Services  
  
Strategy and Policy  
  
4700 River Rd  
  
Riverdale, MD 20737

**Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) requirements for horses competing in the Major League Show Jumping Circuit in Mexico and then residing in the European Union (EU) before exporting to the United States  
(October - November 2024)**

This notice applies to United States and European Union origin horses that compete in the Major League Show Jumping Circuit in Mexico, a country APHIS considers Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) affected, and then reside in a European Union (EU) Member State which APHIS considers VEE free, within the 60 days immediately preceding export to the United States. The complete animal health status of countries can be found on the APHIS website: [Animal Health Status of Regions](#).

Horses that reside in Mexico and then reside in an EU Member State for a minimum of 7 days may qualify for a 3-day Federal import quarantine upon arrival to the United States, provided that they are examined by an official veterinarian pre-export and found free of clinical signs of VEE. The following statement must be endorsed by an official veterinarian of the Competent Veterinary Authority (CVA) or the attached certificate addendum titled “Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis Declaration: Veterinary Health Certificate Addendum”.

*APHIS recognizes the country of export, and all countries resided in for a minimum of seven (7) days immediately prior to export to the United States, as free of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis AND after a minimum of seven (7) days, the horse has been thoroughly examined by an official veterinarian and was found to be free of clinical signs.*

If VEE examination and certification is not completed as above, horses must undergo a 7-day Federal import quarantine upon arrival to the United States.

Horses seeking import into the United States must meet requirements of all foreign animal diseases of concern of each country as specified in the import permit. For more information, questions, or concerns, please contact Dr. Sarah McNitt ([Sarah.McNitt@usda.gov](mailto:Sarah.McNitt@usda.gov)).

Sincerely,

Kelly Rhodes, DVM  
Director, Live Animal Imports  
APHIS VS Strategy and Policy