Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Veterinary Services

Strategy and Policy

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IMPORT ALERT: African Horse Sickness (AHS) restrictions for equine commodities originating from or transiting Thailand

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Effective immediately, and until further notice, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) is placing restrictions on the importation of equine from Thailand, based on the diagnosis of African Horse Sickness (AHS) in multiple equine species of different ages and sexes.

Import permits are normally issued for equine-derived materials such as serum, tissues, feces, etc. However, equine-derived materials that originate from countries recognized by APHIS as affected with AHS are not permitted.

Any equine commodities originating from or transiting through Thailand will be under this restricted entry to the United States.

Importation of equine germplasm will be prohibited, however importation of live equine will be subject to a 60 day quarantine at the New York Animal Import Center in Newburgh, NY.

These restrictions will be updated as additional epidemiological information is obtained. Current information can be found on the APHIS website: <u>Animal Health Status of Regions</u>.