

R16-4211

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① Agency: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

② VAC Number/Chapter Title: 2 VAC 5-30

③ Effective Date of Final Regulation (leave blank for proposed stage): November 19, 2015

④ Name of Document Incorporated by Reference (include edition or effective/revised date):

Terrestrial Animal Health Code, 24th edition, effective July 20, 2015, by the World Organization for Animal Health.

⑤ Summary or description of the document incorporated by reference:

The World Organization for Animal Health Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) sets out standards for the improvement of terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, and for safe international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and their products. The health measures in the Terrestrial Code are used by the Veterinary Authorities of importing and exporting countries for early detection, reporting and control of agents pathogenic to terrestrial animals and, in the case of zoonoses, for humans, and to prevent their transfer via international trade in terrestrial animals and their products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade.

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<http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>

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The material is copyrighted or is otherwise the property of an individual or an organization other than the state government (Va. Code Commission Regulation § 3.3 B 5). In this case, the material is copyrighted by the World Organization for Animal Health.

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Requested by: Erin Williams, 804-786-7157

Print Name/Telephone Number of Agency Regulatory Coordinator

Erin Williams

Signature of Agency Regulatory Coordinator

9/23/2015

Date

Approved:

Jane Chaffin

Registrar of Regulations

9/23/2015

Date

FOREWORD

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code) sets out standards for the improvement of terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide, and for safe international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and their products. The health measures in the Terrestrial Code should be used by the Veterinary Authorities of importing and exporting countries for early detection, reporting and control of agents pathogenic to terrestrial animals and, in the case of zoonoses, for humans, and to prevent their transfer via international trade in terrestrial animals and their products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade.

The standards in the Terrestrial Code have been formally adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates, which constitutes the organisation's highest decision-making body. This 24th edition incorporates modifications to the Terrestrial Code agreed at the 83rd General Session in May 2015. The 2015 edition includes an updated version of the table of contents, user's guide and glossary, and revised text in the following chapters: procedures for self declaration and for official recognition by the OIE, evaluation of Veterinary Services, collection and processing of in vivo derived embryos from livestock and equids, high health status horse subpopulation, general obligations related to certification, certification procedures, prevention, detection and control of Salmonella in poultry, harmonisation of national antimicrobial resistance surveillance and monitoring programmes, risk analysis for antimicrobial resistance arising from the use of antimicrobial agents in animals, animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems, infection with bluetongue virus, infection with Brucella abortus, B. melitensis and B. suis, infection with foot and mouth disease virus, infection with Rift Valley fever virus, infection with avian influenza viruses and bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

This edition includes three new chapters: animal welfare and dairy cattle production systems (7.11.), infection with epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus (8.7.) and infection with Taenia solium (15.3.).

The development of these standards and recommendations is the result of the ongoing work by the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission). This Commission, which comprises six elected members, meets twice yearly to address its work programme. The Commission draws upon the expertise of internationally renowned specialists to prepare draft texts for new articles of the Terrestrial Code and to revise existing articles. The views of OIE National Delegates are routinely sought through the twice yearly circulation of draft texts. The Code Commission collaborates closely with other Specialist Commissions of the OIE, including the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, the Biological Standards Commission and the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases, to ensure that the recommendations contained in the Terrestrial Code are based upon the latest scientific information.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) formally recognises the role of the OIE as the international standard setting organisation for animal health and zoonotic diseases. According to the SPS Agreement, WTO Members should align their import requirements with the recommendations in the relevant standards of the OIE. Where there are no OIE recommendations or if the country chooses a level of protection requiring measures more stringent than the standards of the OIE, these should be based on an import risk analysis conducted in accordance with Chapter 2.1. The Terrestrial Code is thus a key part of the WTO legal framework for international trade.

The Terrestrial Code is published annually in the three official OIE languages (English, French and Spanish). An unofficial translation into Russian is also available from the OIE upon request. The Terrestrial Code may be viewed and downloaded from the OIE Web site at <http://www.oie.int>.

The User's Guide, which follows this foreword, is designed to help Veterinary Authorities and other interested parties to use the Terrestrial Code.

We wish to thank the members of the Code Commission, Delegates and the experts participating in Working Groups and ad hoc Groups and other Commissions for their expert advice. Finally but not least, my thanks go to the staff of the OIE for their dedication in producing this 24th edition of the Terrestrial Code.

*Dr Bernard Vallat
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