



NOTICE

Date: 5 December 2014

Subject: Change in Procedures for Review and Endorsement of International Health Certificates in Sutton, Massachusetts

Effective beginning *January 12, 2015*, USDA APHIS-Veterinary Services will be shifting live animal export health certificate review and endorsement operations from our office in Sutton, Massachusetts to the Service Center office in Albany, New York. This step is being taken to allow for the most efficient use of available staff, and to serve a large and diverse group of animal and animal product exporters across the northeast. Exporters and veterinarians should use an overnight courier or regular mail to remit certificates for pets and livestock to the Veterinary Services office in Albany using the following address:

USDA APHIS-VS
500 New Karner Road, Second Floor
Albany, NY 12205

Every effort will be made to review and endorse all health certificates sent to Albany within 48 hours of arrival. Certificates will be returned to all customers by regular mail, or using a prepaid, pre-printed, self-addressed air bill for an overnight courier if one is included with the health certificate.

Realizing some trading partners allow a very short window during which exporters must complete the health certificate process, particularly for pets and poultry, USDA APHIS-Veterinary Services will continue to review animal health documents presented in person at the office in Albany, NY. We are also able to meet with exporters at the office in Sutton, Massachusetts on a limited basis by appointment only. Please call our office in Albany at 518-218-7540 for assistance with an appointment in either New York or Massachusetts.

International trade from the United States is fast-paced, and Veterinary Services is proud not only to help assure that the animals and animal products presented to the world from New England meet the health requirements of our trading partners, but that travel and trade occur at the speed requested by our exporters. This change will allow us to continue to meet those goals for everyone, without an increase in fees, and with available staffing.

We appreciate your patience as we all transition and adapt to this change.

