

# SECTION 14.

## OVIDAE AND CAPRIDAE

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### CHAPTER 14.1.

#### CAPRINE AND OVINE BRUCELLOSIS (EXCLUDING *Brucella ovis*)

Article 14.1.1.

##### General provisions

Standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 14.1.2.

##### Country or zone officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis

###### 1. Qualification

To qualify as officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a country or *zone* should satisfy the following requirements:

- a) the occurrence or suspected occurrence of caprine and ovine brucellosis has been notifiable for at least five years; and
- b) all *flocks* of sheep and goats in the country or *zone* are under *official veterinary control*; and either
- c) 99.8 percent of these *flocks* are qualified as officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis; or
- d) no case of brucellosis in sheep or goats has been reported for at least five years, and no sheep or goat has been vaccinated against the *disease* for at least three years.

###### 2. Maintenance of officially free status

For a country or *zone* to maintain its status as officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a serological survey should be carried out every year in the *establishments* or *abattoirs* on a representative sample of the caprine and ovine *flocks* of the country or *zone* sufficient to provide at least a 99 percent level of confidence of detecting caprine and ovine brucellosis if it is present at a prevalence rate exceeding 0.2 percent of the *flocks*.

However, for a country or *zone* qualified as officially free under point 1)d) above, maintenance testing is not required.

Article 14.1.3.

##### Sheep or goat flock officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis

###### 1. Qualification

To qualify as officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a sheep or goat *flock* should satisfy the following requirements:

- a) it is under *official veterinary control*;

- b) no clinical, bacteriological or immunological evidence of caprine and ovine brucellosis has been found for at least one year;
- c) it contains only sheep or goats not vaccinated against brucellosis or permanently identified *animals* which were vaccinated more than two years ago;
- d) all sheep and goats over six months of age on the day of sampling have been subjected to a diagnostic test for brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, at an interval of not more than 12 months and not less than six months; however, for *flocks* situated in a country or *zone* qualified as officially free under point 1d) of Article 14.1.2., testing is not required;
- e) when qualified, it contains only sheep and goats born therein or introduced in conformity with the provisions of Article 14.1.5.

2. Maintenance of officially free status

For a *flock* to maintain its status as officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a sample of the *animals* in the *flock* should be subjected each year to a diagnostic test for brucellosis, with negative results.

For a *flock* containing up to 1,000 *animals*, the sample should include:

- a) all non-castrated males over six months of age;
- b) all the *animals* introduced into the *flock* since the previous test;
- c) 25 percent of the pubescent females; the number of females included in the sample should not be less than 50, unless the *flock* contains fewer than 50 females, in which case all pubescent females should be included.

For a *flock* containing more than 1,000 *animals*, a serological survey should be carried out every year on a representative sample of the *animals* in the *flock* sufficient to provide a 99 percent level of confidence of detecting caprine and ovine brucellosis if it is present at a prevalence rate exceeding 0.2 percent.

Control tests should be carried out at up to three-year intervals if the *flock* is situated in a *zone* where 99 percent of *flocks* are officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis and the remainder are submitted to an eradication programme.

However, for *flocks* situated in a country or *zone* qualified as officially free under point 1d) of Article 14.1.2., maintenance testing is not required.

Whatever the periodicity of control tests and the way the status has been obtained, sheep and goats should only be introduced into the *flocks* in conformity with the provisions of Article 14.1.5.

3. Suspension and recovery of officially free status

If a sheep or goat reacts positively to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis, the status of *flock* officially free from brucellosis shall be suspended and may not be recovered unless the following requirements have been fulfilled:

- a) all infected and in-contact *animals* were eliminated from the *flock* as soon as the result of the diagnostic test was known;
- b) all the remaining sheep and goats in the *flock* over six months of age on the day of sampling have been subjected to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis, with negative results, on two occasions, at an interval of not less than three months.

Article 14.1.4.

**Sheep or goat flock free from caprine and ovine brucellosis**

1. Qualification

To qualify as free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a sheep or goat *flock* should satisfy the following requirements:

- a) it is under *official veterinary control*;
- b) no clinical, bacteriological or immunological evidence of caprine and ovine brucellosis has been found for at least one year;
- c) if all or some of the sheep or goats have been vaccinated against caprine and ovine brucellosis, this was performed before seven months of age;
- d) all non-vaccinated sheep and goats over 6 months of age, and all vaccinated ones over 18 months of age on the day of sampling have been subjected to a diagnostic test for brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, at an interval of not more than 12 months and not less than 6 months;

- e) when qualified, it contains only sheep and goats born therein or introduced in conformity with the provisions of Article 14.1.6.

## 2. Maintenance of free status

For a *flock* to maintain its status as free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, a sample of the *animals* in the *flock* should be subjected each year to a diagnostic test for brucellosis with negative results.

For a *flock* containing up to 1,000 *animals*, the sample should include:

- a) all non-castrated males over 18 months of age if vaccinated, and over 6 months of age if unvaccinated;
- b) all *animals* introduced into the *flock* since the previous control;
- c) 25 percent of the pubescent females except vaccinated females less than 18 months of age; the number of females included in the sample should not be less than 50, unless the *flock* contains fewer than 50 females, in which case all pubescent females should be included in the sample.

For a *flock* containing more than 1,000 *animals*, a serological survey should be carried out every year on a representative sample of the *animals* in the *flock*, excluding vaccinated females less than 18 months of age, sufficient to provide a 99 percent level of confidence of detecting caprine and ovine brucellosis if it is present at a prevalence rate exceeding 0.2 percent.

Sheep and goats should only be introduced into the *flock* in conformity with the provisions of Article 14.1.6.

## 3. Suspension and recovery of free status

If a sheep or goat over 18 months of age, if vaccinated, or over 6 months of age, if not vaccinated, reacts positively to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis, the status of *flock* free from brucellosis shall be suspended, and may not be recovered unless the following requirements have been fulfilled:

- a) all infected and in-contact *animals* were eliminated from the *flock* as soon as the result of the diagnostic test was known;
- b) all the remaining sheep and goats in the *flock* over 18 months of age if vaccinated, and over six months of age if not vaccinated on the day of sampling, have been subjected to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, at an interval of not less than three months.

## 4. Change of status

For a *flock* free from caprine and ovine brucellosis to qualify as officially free, the *flock* should fulfil the following requirements for at least two years:

- a) it has been free from caprine and ovine brucellosis;
- b) *vaccination* against brucellosis has not been practised;
- c) any sheep or goats introduced into the *flock* satisfied the provisions of Article 14.1.5.;

and at the end of the period, all sheep and goats over six months of age on the day of sampling have been subjected to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis, with negative results.

## Article 14.1.5.

### **Recommendations for the importation of sheep and goats for breeding or rearing (except castrated males) destined for flocks officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of caprine and ovine brucellosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) come from a sheep or goat *flock* officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis;

OR

- 3) come from a sheep or goat *flock* free from caprine and ovine brucellosis; and
- 4) have not been vaccinated against brucellosis, or, if vaccinated, that the last *vaccination* was performed at least two years previously; and
- 5) were isolated in the *establishment* of origin, and were subjected during that period to a diagnostic test for caprine and ovine brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, at an interval of not less than six weeks.

Article 14.1.6.

**Recommendations for the importation of sheep and goats for breeding or rearing (except castrated males) destined for flocks not officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of caprine and ovine brucellosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) come from a sheep or goat *flock* officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis or a sheep or goat *flock* free from caprine and ovine brucellosis.

Article 14.1.7.

**Recommendations for the importation of sheep and goats for slaughter (except castrated males)**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of caprine and ovine brucellosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) come from a sheep or goat *flock* where no case of brucellosis has occurred during the 42 days prior to shipment.

Article 14.1.8.

**Recommendations for the importation of semen of sheep and goats**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the donor *animals*:
  - a) showed no clinical sign of caprine and ovine brucellosis on the day of collection of the semen;
  - b) were kept in a sheep or goat *flock* officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis; or
  - c) were kept in a sheep or goat *flock* free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, and were subjected to two different diagnostic tests for caprine and ovine brucellosis on the same blood sample with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection;
- 2) the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.

Article 14.1.9.

**Recommendations for the importation of embryos/ova of sheep and goats**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the donor females:
    - a) were kept in a sheep or goat *flock* officially free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, and showed no clinical sign of brucellosis on the day of collection of the embryos/ova; or
    - b) were kept in a sheep or goat *flock* free from caprine and ovine brucellosis, showed no clinical sign of brucellosis on the day of collection, and were subjected to two different diagnostic tests for caprine and ovine brucellosis on the same blood sample taken within the 30 days prior to collection, with negative results;
  - 2) the embryos/ova were collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.7., 4.8. and 4.9., as relevant.
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