



LIVE ANIMAL TRADE & WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT SECTION (VECIT DIVISION)				
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## Information Note on Mares Travelling with Foals at Foot

### Travel to and from the EU

Unweaned foals which have yet to be issued a passport can travel with their dams between EU countries, whether they are registered Equidae or Equidae for breeding and production. In such cases,

- the mare must have an equine passport and the foal must be identified (microchipped).
- The mare and foal must travel with an intra-trade animal health certificate (ITAHC)<sup>1</sup> for a consignment of equines. This must be procured according to the usual procedure for equine movements to and from the EU. For information on this process please see [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) - [Export of Horses \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie).
- There are currently no testing requirements or minimum periods of residency required for intra-EU movements.

### Travel to Great Britain from Ireland

Unweaned registered foals which have yet to be issued a passport can travel with their dams to Great Britain (GB). In such cases, while the mare must have an equine passport,

- there is no requirement for the foal to be identified (microchipped) to get into Great Britain.
- However, if the mare and foal are to travel back to the EU, the foal must be identified by one of the methods listed in the next section – microchip being the most common). This should be taken into account before leaving Ireland, when preparing the mare and foal for travel.
- The mare and foal must travel with the correct Export Health Certificate procured according to the usual procedure for equine movements to GB. For information on this process please see [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) - [Export of Horses \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie).
- There are currently no testing requirements or minimum periods of residency required for movement of registered equines to GB.

Exporters however should regularly check for any updates provided by the UK authorities on [Import live animals and germinal products from the EU to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

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<sup>1</sup> Or a DOCOM in the case of eligible horses travelling to France

## Travel to Ireland (or any other EU country) from Great Britain

Foals at foot can travel with the dam into Ireland from Great Britain (GB). In such cases,

- The foal is considered an individual 'registered horse' and requires its own separate health certificate (title: model EQUI-X), individual identification and testing.
- The foal needs to be identified with a microchip but a passport is not mandatory. Alternative methods of identification could be ear tag, electronic ear tag or brand.
- GB is listed as Sanitary Group A. Therefore, registered horses (both the mare **and** foal) moving from GB must have undergone a test for Equine Infectious Anaemia, with negative results, on a blood sample taken within a period not exceeding 90 days prior to the date of dispatch to the EU.
- Residency must be established in GB for registered equine animals before travel to the EU:
  - The minimum residency period in GB is 40 days, or since birth, or any period, no matter how short, since entry from the EU into GB (i.e. if mare/foal moved from IE → GB then they can move back at any time, as they have moved from the EU to GB)
  - The declaration by the operator responsible for entry requires that the operator confirm that during the period of 15 days prior to the date of departure the equine animal has not been in contact with animals suffering from infectious or contagious diseases.
- Both the mare and foal can be put on the same Common Health Entry Document (CHED) for import into the EU.

## Using the UK Landbridge

Information on using the UK landbridge is available at the following links: [Transiting animals and animal products through Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transiting-animals-and-animal-products-through-great-britain) and [gov.ie - Using the UK Landbridge \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/government-departments/department-of-rural-and-natural-resources/using-the-uk-landbridge/).

In summary, GB require:

- Notification on IPAFFS, with copy of ITAHC created in TRACES uploaded to IPAFFS (IPAFFS is the UKs "Import of products, animals, food and feed system")
- Can enter/exit through any port
- No GB transit certificate required currently (GB may introduce such a requirement in future)
- Email APHA at [ImportsRiskManagement@apha.gov.uk](mailto:ImportsRiskManagement@apha.gov.uk) with the subject line 'Confirmation that a consignment has left GB territory' to confirm consignment has left GB
- Transporter authorisation (GB/Northern Ireland (NI)), certificates of competence and vehicle approval certificates (GB/NI approved) required.

EU re-entry BCPs require:

- The responsible operator must give prior notification to the BCP of re-entry into the EU by submitting Part 1 of the Common Health Entry Document (CHED) in TRACES NT.

## Welfare During Transport

Under welfare during transport regulations, travel is prohibited for:

- pregnant females in the final 10% of their predicted pregnancy,
- females who have given birth in the previous week;
- new-born animals in which the navel has not completely healed.