

- Check with individual airlines for additional restrictions on pet travel.

The USDA has strict laws prohibiting the importation of meat, dairy and other items of animal origin into the United States. People caught with these restricted items in their baggage could face fines of up to \$1000 or one year in prison.

WHAT ITEMS ARE PROHIBITED BECAUSE OF FMD?

According to the United States Department of Agriculture the following items* are prohibited entry into the United States:

- All animal products such as fresh, processed, dried or canned meats.
- Animal parts, untanned hides and animal hair.
- Dairy products such as milk, yogurt, cheese and butter
- Horns, hoofs, bones or bone meal

*This list is a guideline only, it is not all-inclusive.

For specific information on animal import and export limitations please refer to: www.aphis.usda.gov

REFERENCES:

1. Foot and Mouth Disease, USDA, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service fact sheet, July 1998. www.aphis.usda.gov
2. Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, Animal Health and Welfare, International Trade. www.maff.gov.uk

For a downloadable copy of this brochure please refer to:

www.chppmeur.amedd.army.mil



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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE



What you can do to protect agriculture in the United States ?

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is a viral disease that affects cloven-hoofed animals. FMD has been diagnosed in several countries in Europe. The disease has not been in the United States since 1929. Every effort is being made to stop the spread of FMD within Europe and to prevent its introduction into the US. It is important to know what products are prohibited for import into the US and how to disinfect clothing, shoes and household items that might carry the virus. FMD is not a threat to public health.

HOW IS THE DISEASE SPREAD?

Foot and Mouth Disease virus affects sheep, pigs, cattle, and deer. Other animals such as horses, dog and cats do not become ill with the disease, but can carry the virus on their fur, feet, or bedding. The virus can also be spread in soil, on shoes, clothing and equipment that have been in contact with infected animals.

HOW CAN I PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FMD?

WHEN TRAVELING IN EUROPE:

For people living in countries where the disease is reported, any meat, sausage, butter or other dairy product should not be transported out of that country. This includes pet products and treats that contain meat or animal by-products such as pigs' ears or rawhide.

Some countries are requiring disinfection of shoes and vehicle tires at border crossings, so allow extra time for travel. Host nation restrictions and guidelines must be followed when traveling.

WHEN TRAVELING BACK TO THE UNITED STATES:

- Avoid farms, sale barns, stockyards, animal laboratories, packinghouses, zoos, fairs or other animal facilities for 5 days prior to travel.
- Launder or dry clean all clothing and outerwear, remove dirt and soil from shoes by wiping with a dilute bleach solution.
- If luggage items are soiled, they should also be wiped down with a dilute bleach solution.
- Avoid contact with livestock or wildlife for 5 days after arrival in the US.
- People traveling from farms to the US for the purpose of visiting or working on a US farm must take extra precautions.

WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD I TAKE WHEN MOVING HOUSEHOLD ITEMS BACK TO THE US?

In order to prepare for Customs inspection of household items, it is recommended that several steps be taken to ensure the virus is not carried on these goods:

- Clean outdoor equipment to remove all dirt and soil.
- Disinfect all items that have had contact with soil with a dilute bleach solution. Mix 5 tablespoons (1/3 cup) of bleach with 1 gallon of water.

- Have all carpets and rugs cleaned and wrapped in plastic prior to packing.
- Sort household goods so customs officials can easily inspect outdoor items.
- A detailed list of approved disinfectants is available at: www.aphis.usda.gov

WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD I TAKE WHEN TRAVELING WITH A PET TO THE US?

Because the FMD virus is easily carried on the fur, feet, bedding, even saliva of household pets, the following procedures should be adhered to when transporting a pet back to the US from FMD affected areas:

- Within 10 days of travel, make an appointment to bring your pet to a Veterinary Treatment Facility for a health certificate.
- Bedding, kennel, leash, collar, and toys should be free of any dirt, mud, straw, hay or other organic material. Clean these items with a bleach solution (1/3 cup bleach in one gallon of water), allow to air dry. Normal washing of the pet's bedding is sufficient.
- Pets should be bathed within 5 days of departure. Once bathed, do not allow the animal to go near farms, livestock, or wildlife.
- The pet should be bathed again upon arrival at its destination. Pets should be kept away from livestock for at least 5 days after arrival in the US.