

## USDA Guidelines for Importation #1102

### Feline and Canine Material:

INCLUDING: blood, tissues, serum, feces, extracts, fluids, canine semen for research purposes  
NOT INCLUDING: cell cultures, tissue cultures, cell culture products, canine semen for reproductive purposes

### Introduction:

Material derived from any animal is potentially subject to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations and must be cleared by USDA inspectors at the port of arrival before entry into the United States is authorized. A USDA import permit is required for animal material that may pose a risk of introducing exotic animal diseases into the United States. However, material from cats and dogs that have not been inoculated with or exposed to any livestock or poultry disease agents may enter the country without USDA restrictions.

### Procedures:

A USDA import permit will not be required for cat and dog material **IF** the following is provided in the shipping documents:

1. An identification of the material as feline or canine.
2. A written declaration indicating the material does not contain any other animal derived material (ie. from livestock or poultry).
3. A written declaration stating the material was NOT derived from cats and dogs which were inoculated with or exposed to any infectious agents of agricultural concern.

This information must be supplied as ORIGINAL statements on producer/shipper letterhead in a clear and concise manner, and be available for review by the USDA Inspector at the port of arrival. We recommend that a separate memo or letter be included with the shipping documents, such as a U.S. Customs declaration and invoice. Do not put documents INSIDE shipping containers.

Please instruct your **shippers** to provide this information.

If the above information is not supplied, the shipment may be subject to delays. If the material to be imported cannot meet these criteria, then a USDA import permit may be required.