



**VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE
EXPORT OF BOVINE *IN VITRO* FERTILIZED EMBRYOS TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

SECTION I

Name of Exporter/Consignor: _____

Address: _____

Name of Importer/Consignee: _____

Address: _____

SECTION II

Name of Approved Embryo Production Laboratory: _____

Address: _____

Name of slaughterhouse : _____

Address: _____

Name of artificial insemination centre: _____

Address: _____

Embryo container identification: _____ Seal number: _____

Place of shipment: _____ Date of sealing: _____

SECTION III - NOTES

1. The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) will either send animal quarantine officers to the slaughterhouses and the relevant Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) laboratories, where the ovaries, oocytes and other tissues are collected, to cooperate with the Canadian veterinarians in conducting the quarantine procedures of the bovine *in vitro* fertilized (IVF) embryos, or, alternatively AQSIQ may send animal quarantine officers to approve the relevant facilities, including the laboratories and slaughterhouses for bovine IVF embryos production in advance and such approval for export to China will be for a specified period.
2. After having received confirmation that an import permit for bovine IVF embryos has been issued by AQSIQ, the CFIA may start the implementation of the quarantine and inspection procedure for donor cows and bovine IVF embryos according to the requirements presented in this veterinary certificate. Each permit can only allow for importation of one consignment of bovine IVF embryos.
3. One original and two copies of the export veterinary health certificate must accompany the shipment. The health certificate must be typed. Handwritten or altered versions of the certificate are invalid. The health certificate must be validated with the official stamp of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the signature of an authorized veterinary officer. The relevant testing results are mentioned in Section V.
4. Bovine IVF embryos arriving at the Chinese port of entry without a valid health certificate shall be returned or destroyed.

SECTION IV - HEALTH CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned Veterinarian, being an official full time salaried Veterinarian of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) certify that:

1. Canada officially confirms it is free from foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, *Brucella abortus*, vesicular stomatitis, Rift Valley fever and lumpy skin disease;
 - a) In the event of an outbreak of any disease mentioned above occurring in Canada, CFIA shall notify AQSIQ within twenty-four (24) hours including the name of the disease, location of the infected premises, the number and species of the animals involved and the control measures taken; and,

- b) refrain from exporting bovine IVF embryos to People's Republic of China.
2. The CFIA is responsible for the supervision of the approved embryo production team veterinarian, the slaughterhouses and the laboratories where the ovaries, oocytes or other tissues are collected and bovine IVF embryos produced.
 3. The farms of origin, slaughterhouses and laboratories comply with the following requirements:
 - 3.1 the farms of origin, slaughterhouses and laboratories were not under any restriction due to reportable diseases;
 - 3.2 the farms of origin, slaughterhouses and laboratories were located in an area outside the Okanagan Valley, defined as: from a point on the Canada/United States border 120° 15' longitude, 49° latitude, northerly to a point 119° 35' longitude, 50° 30' latitude, north easterly to a point 119° longitude, 50° 45' latitude, southerly to a point on the Canada/United States border 118° 15' longitude, 49° latitude, which is recognized free from bluetongue and epizootic hemorrhagic disease of deer;
 - 3.3 the farms of origin, slaughterhouses and laboratories were under national surveillance program in accordance with the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines for prevention, control and eradication of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE);
 - 3.4 the donor cows of IVF embryos were born and raised in Canada, born after the implementation of the Canada's feed ban (i.e. after August 4, 1997) and no ruminant protein or any feed prohibited under the feed ban has been used for animal feed;
 - 3.5 the donor cows which the ovaries, oocytes and other tissues originated from, as well their parents or birth cohort of animals, were not affected by BSE;
 - 3.6 the farms of origin have been free from tuberculosis and brucellosis for the six (6) months preceding exportation.
 4. The semen used for the production of bovine IVF embryos originated from semen production centres approved by both AQSIS and CFIA and met the conditions for export from Canada to the People's Republic of China.
 5. The laboratories for the bovine IVF embryos production were approved by AQSIS and CFIA in accordance with the rules and standards of the OIE.
 6. Culture media, washing solutions, co-culture cells and biological products of animal origin were free of pathogenic organisms.
 7. The collection of ovaries from the donor cows at slaughterhouses was under the supervision of a CFIA official veterinarian, the slaughterhouse was approved by both AQSIS and CFIA and the CFIA official veterinarian confirms the following requirements were met:
 - 7.1 The donor cows for the production of bovine IVF embryos were qualified in accordance with the requirements mentioned in item 3 above, were submitted to an ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection, were found healthy and free from clinical signs of infectious disease and were considered fit for human consumption;
 - 7.2 All the donor cows were gathered and slaughtered together in a period specified by the CFIA official veterinarian; the ovaries were collected in a manner to prevent contamination with specified risk material (SRM); collected ovaries were washed and placed in containers, using biosecurity measures to avoid contamination;
 - 7.3 The provinces where the farms are located, the name of the slaughterhouse and date of slaughter were recorded and information kept with collected embryos for reference.
 8. The collection of ovaries, oocytes and other tissues, *in vitro* maturation of oocytes (IVM), *in vitro* fertilization (IVF), *in vitro* culture of embryos (IVC) were under the direct supervision of the IVF embryo production team veterinarian and under the supervision of a CFIA official veterinarian and were in accordance with the recommendations of the Manual of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS), and methods approved by the OIE.
 9. Before being frozen, stored and transported, all bovine IVF embryos were transferred through five (5) washes of phosphate buffered saline containing bovine serum albumin, then through two washes of 0.25 % trypsin, pH 7.6-7.8 for a total immersed time of 60 to 90 seconds and finally through five (5) washes that contain serum instead of bovine serum albumin. Each of the washes was a 100-fold dilution of the previous one and a fresh sterile pipette was used for each transfer. Products of non-animal origin were used as much as possible instead of serum or bovine serum albumin.
 10. The bovine IVF embryos to be exported were confirmed to have an intact zona pellucida and free of adherent material.
 11. The bovine IVF embryos to be exported were placed into sealed straws and the straws were identified in accordance with the recommendations of the Manual of the IETS.
 12. The bovine IVF embryos to be exported were stored in a secure location approved by CFIA until the eligibility of the embryos to be certified for export has been confirmed.

