

CHOIX SUR LES CRITÈRES SANITAIRES

par

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Séminaire des 26 et 27 Octobre 2001

« Le choix des reproducteurs »

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ANNEXE : REGLEMENTS ET RECOMMANDATIONS POUR LES ECHANGES INTERNATIONAUX DE SEMENCE CANINE REFRIGEREE OU CONGELEE.

(par le Pr. Catharina Linde-Forsberg – Suède).

Introduction

The interest in international shipment of dog semen is steadily increasing and the number of storage facilities for frozen canine semen is also increasing, although at a somewhat slower pace. Dog semen can be shipped as extended and chilled, or frozen. What is most convenient will depend on a number of factors, such as shipping distance, and whether the shipped semen is intended for artificial insemination (AI) of one bitch or of several bitches, but also the rules and regulations of the country in question. In several countries there are different rules for semen coming from different countries and some countries also have rules that regulate the exportation of semen. The rules for importation of chilled semen may be different from those which apply to frozen semen. Sometimes the regulations in the importing country preclude the possibility of using chilled semen. The national Kennel Clubs may request prior application for permission to use imported semen, and they usually request proper identification of the semen donor by microchip or ID-tattoo, or a DNA test.

It should be kept in mind that both national legislation and Kennel Club regulations may change at any time. Before undertaking to export dog semen the bitch owner or importer should, therefore, always be advised to contact the Ministry of Agriculture (or the corresponding authority) and the Kennel Club in the importing country to receive information about the latest set of rules and regulations. These contacts should be made well in advance of the planned semen export, so that all the necessary health certificates and blood tests can be made in accordance with the requirements. A list of addresses can be found in Appendix 1.

Ministry of Agriculture requirements

When it comes to the national legislations pertaining to the importation of dog semen the different countries basically fall into one of the following four categories, (which are also stated for each country in Appendix 1):

Category 1.

There are no regulations, which may mean either that everything is allowed, or the opposite, that nothing is allowed. This, obviously needs to be checked. In general, however, the lack of regulations means that the importation of dog semen is not subject to any restrictions.

Category 2.

There is a request for just a formal import permit, with no further requirements.

Category 3.

There is a request for an import permit and that it should be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate for the semen donor issued at the time of semen collection, and/or at a stipulated time interval before, and/or after, the semen collection.

Category 4.

There is a request both for an import permit and a health certificate and for a serological test for leptospirosis (usually *L. canicola* and *L. icterhaemorrhagica*) and/or for brucella canis. Note that the blood samples in some cases should be taken prior to (usually within 15-45 days before), in other cases at the time of, and sometimes after (usually 20-30 days, or 3-6 weeks after) the semen collection.

Some additional requirements: (In Appendix marked as "+")

- that the semen donor must not have been outside the exporting country for from 2 to 12 months prior to the semen collection, or
- that the donor dog has not been used for natural breeding from the time of the blood test until semen collection,
- that the semen donor has, or has not, been vaccinated with different vaccines for a varying time prior to the semen collection,
- that the inseminated bitch must not be bred by another dog during the same cycle and that in case she should abort the Ministry must be immediately notified and the fetuses examined,
- that the import permit in original must accompany the shipment
- that the liquid nitrogen must be new or unused
- that the liquid nitrogen container must be new or unused
- that eggs used for the semen extenders must be from a flock of hens free from Newcastle disease

Kennel Club requirements:

1. Some countries' Kennel Clubs have no regulations which, again, may mean that everything is allowed, or that registration of litters by imported semen is not officially allowed. This, therefore, should be checked well in advance. However, the lack of regulations generally means that there are no restrictions, or that there are no controls made of whether the bitch has been abroad to be mated, or the semen has been imported and the bitch artificially inseminated.
2. Most national Kennel Clubs request that the semen donor should be officially registered by that Kennel Club or by another officially recognized Kennel Club.
3. They also usually request that the semen donor is permanently identified by an ID-tattoo or a microchip, and that the person performing the semen collection testifies that the dog's identity has been checked.
4. Most Kennel Clubs request that the semen donor has a normal testicular status.
5. Some Kennel Clubs request prior application for permission to use imported semen.

6. The American Kennel Club requests that a DNA sample is submitted. It is taken with the aid of a special cheek-swab supplied by the AKC (see Appendix 1).
7. Some Kennel Clubs have, for some of the breeds, an eradication program against various hereditary diseases (for instance HD, PRA, and PNP), and the semen donor must then be tested and free from any such disease.
8. Other requirements may be that the dogs have shown that they can mate normally or have proved that they are fertile.

General recommendations for minimum documentation to accompany international shipments of dog semen.

In order to comply with the majority of the various national rules and regulations, and as a courtesy to the colleague who will perform the AI, it is recommended that each international shipment of dog semen is accompanied by the following documents, and that the following procedures are adhered to, also when this is not formally required:

- ◆ A general veterinary health certificate, including a statement that the dog has a normal testicular status, and that the identity of the dog was confirmed.
- ◆ A semen quality assessment form, and in the case of frozen semen also thawing instructions, together with a recommendation of how many straws, or vials in the case of pelleted semen, should be used for each AI. An example of such a certificate is given in Appendix 3.
- ◆ Always use the correct, registered name of the dog, not its pet name, for all official documents, including the blood test report.
- ◆ Always enclose a set of copies of the certificates, either attached on the outside of the shipment, or inside it. It sometimes happens that the freight bill with the original certificates is lost under way, or removed by mistake, for instance by customs in a transit country.
- ◆ Straws (or vials with pellets) should be packaged so that they are easy to move from the shipping dewar to the storage tank, i.e. they should be in goblets and canes, or in plastic sheaths, which are properly marked (for marking, see below). If pellets are sent, do not forget to enclose the plastic bags used for the thawing (Whirl-pak, Nasco, USA) as these are not readily available in all countries.
- ◆ Always apply a seal to the thermos flask, styrofoam box, or LN₂ dewar, even when this is not an official requirement. This prevents unauthorized persons from opening it and, thus, minimizes the risks of damage. Whenever possible do not put the seal on the outer case, but directly on the flask, box, or dewar. The LN₂ dewars usually are equipped with a separate ring for seals.

Who should organise the shipment? Some canine semen agencies co-operate with a freight company. Freight charges, however, appear to be quite negotiable and it can be quite time consuming to organize the shipments, as they almost always involve customs clearance and other procedures. For these reasons others chose to leave it to the dog or bitch owner to organize. For the shippers declarations they will need to know that the code for liquid nitrogen is UN1977, and for the dry-shippers the IATA Packing

Instruction 202:Note, which clarifies that this kind of tank can be shipped as non-dangerous goods. There should also be an accompanying statement for customs that the tank is on loan and that it will be returned as an empty packaging, to avoid VAT , other tax, or a customs fee. Consider insuring the tank against damages during the transport.

Who may perform A.I.?

Both national legislation and the Kennel Clubs may have regulations regarding the right to perform AI in dogs, and where semen may be stored. In several countries this is an exclusively veterinary matter, and in some countries the veterinarians are expected to have passed a special course for AI in dogs. When it comes to frozen semen, however, special qualifications are needed for the handling of the semen and generally poor results are obtained with vaginal AI.

Cooperation between the semen processing agencies and the inseminating veterinarians.

Semen processing agencies must provide the practitioners with adequate information about the quality of the semen they send, and in the case of frozen semen information about how the semen should be thawed, because the method of thawing is dependent on how the freezing was done, and the methods vary between freezing agencies.

The responsibility of choosing the right time of the oestrous cycle of the bitch to perform the AI, on the other hand, lies with the inseminating practitioner. It is strongly recommended to check the bitch's peripheral plasma level of progesterone when either chilled or frozen-thawed semen is to be used. The optimal time for AI is considered to be 4 to 7 days after the LH-surge, i.e. 2-5 days after the estimated time of ovulation. The level of progesterone is then usually between 30 and 75 nmol/L (10 and 25 ng/ml).

The AI-technique is also extremely important to obtain good pregnancy results when using dog semen. Significantly better results are obtained with intrauterine compared to vaginal deposition of fresh, chilled extended or of frozen-thawed canine semen (Linde-Forsberg, 2000). Intrauterine AI in the dog can be done with the Scandinavian catheter (Linde-Forsberg, 2001) or with the aid of a rigid endoscope and a dog urinary catheter (Wilson, 1993). Surgical AI and AI by laparoscopy is also used. Whether these latter methods are ethically acceptable is under some debate, and no field results have been reported.

An important part of the cooperation between the semen agencies and the practitioners, and one that seldom functions to satisfaction, is the reporting back of the results that are obtained. Although time-consuming, this follow-up obviously is of great value for both parties, and critical for any objective evaluation of a semen processing system, an insemination facility, or a specific procedure or modification.

Appendix:

A quick guide to regulations for international shipment of chilled and frozen canine semen

In parallel with the growing interest in international shipment of canine semen there is a growing demand for a source of quick reference to the varying rules and regulations that apply in different countries. This guide, although far from being complete, aims at summarizing much of this information and lists useful websites and addresses for the relevant national bodies. It should be remembered that the rules and regulations as they appear in this Appendix have been substantially abbreviated, and that they may be changed at any time. Therefore, always check for the latest official versions. Also observe that when it is stated that there are no rules or special requirements, this can imply either that everything is allowed, or that nothing is allowed.

Some useful addresses:

(The addresses and information for a large number of Kennel Clubs world-wide can be found on the website of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale, FCI: www.fci.org).

Australia (category 4+):

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) Phone: +61 93115315; Fax: +61 94552325.

Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC) www.ankc.aust.com

Requirements: An import permit is required. The semen shipment must be accompanied by the import permit in original. Each permit is valid for 6 months, and for one consignment only. The liquid nitrogen container must be new/unused. A veterinary health certificate is required. A blood test for brucella canis taken within 45 days before the semen collection and the dog not be naturally mated between sampling and the last semen collection. A blood test for leptospirosis taken within 21 days prior to semen collection, or if the dog is vaccinated against leptospira two blood tests should be taken with an interval of at least 14 days and the second being within 21 days prior to semen collection, with a titre of not more than 1:400 on each occasion and no increase in titre between the first and second tests.

Austria (category 4)

Federal Ministry for Social Security and Generations (Bundesministerium für Soziale Sicherheit und Generationen), Veterinärverwaltung, Radetskystrasse 2, A-1030 Vienna. Phone: +43 1 71100; Fax: +43 – 1 710 41 51; www.bmsg.gv.at.

Austrian Kennel Club (Österreichischer Kynologenverband, ÖKV), Johann-Teufel-gasse 8, a-1230 Vienna. Phone: +43 –1 888 70 92; Fax: +43 – 1888 26 21; email: office@oekv.at; www.oekv.at

Requirements: An import permit, a health certificate and a blood test for leptospirosis and brucella canis at the time of semen collection. For frozen semen the health certificate and the brucella test should be repeated after 14 days.

Belgium (category 1)

The Belgian Ministry of Agriculture (Ministère de l'agriculture, Service de l'inspection Vétérinaire, Avenue du Boulevard 21 (5ième etage), 1210 Bruxelles, Belgium.

The Belgian Kennel Club (Union Royale Cynologique Saint Hubert), 98, Avenue Albert Giraudlaan, B-1030 Bruxelles, Belgium. Phone: +32-2 245 48 40; fax: +32-2 245 87 90.

Requirements: None.

Canada (category 3+)

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), P.O. Box 6088, 1081 Main Street, Moncton, N.B. E1C 8R2, phone: + 1-506 851 7652; fax: + 1-506 851 2689.

Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), 100-89 Skyway Avenue, Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 6R4, Canada.

Requirements: An import permit and a veterinary health certificate. The permit in original should accompany the semen shipment to Canada. An export certificate should be issued by a Government veterinarian of the exporting country. The LN₂-tank must have a numbered tamper proof seal, and the number must be recorded on the export certificate. The dog must not have been vaccinated during the 30 days immediately preceding collection. The dog must not have been used for natural service for a minimum of 14 days prior to and until completion of semen collections. The semen sample(s) must be certified free from contaminating pathogenic microorganisms. All equipment used to collect, handle, wash, freeze and store the semen must have been new, or sterilized prior to use. Specified antibiotics must have been used in the extenders, and the semen have been stored in this for specified times, depending on which antibiotics were used, before freezing. The shipment of the semen through another country requires written authorization from CFIA.

Czech republic (category 4+)

Czech Republic State Veterinarian (Státní veterinární správa České republiky), Tesnov 17, 117 05 Praha 1, Czech Republic. Phone: +420-248 012 735; Fax: +420-218 129 74.

The Czech Kennel Club (Ceskomoravská myslivecká unie), U Pergamenky 3, CZ-170 00 Praha 7, Czech Republic. Phone: +420-2 667 108 29; fax: +420-2 667 128 27; email: cmku@cmku.cz ; www.cmku.cz,

Requirements: An import permit, a veterinary health certificate and a blood test for leptospirosis and brucella canis, taken not earlier than 20 days and not later than 30 days after the collection of semen. Semen straws should be sealed at the time of collection and marked with details of the donor dog. The donor dog should be vaccinated against rabies.

Denmark (category 3+)

The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (Ministeriet for Fodevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri), Morkhoj Bygade 19, DK 2860 Soborg, Denmark. www.foedevaredirektoratet.dk/vnyt, email: foedevaredirektoratet@fdir.dk, phone: +45-33 95 60 00, fax: +45-33 95 62 89.

The Danish Kennel Club (Dansk Kennel Klub), Parkvej 1, Jersie Strand, DK-2680 Solrod Strand, Denmark. Phone: +45-56 18 81 00; fax: +45-53 18 81 91, www.dansk_kennel_klub.dk.

Requirements: The importer needs to apply for a registration as importer in writing to the "Veterinaerdirektoratet, 1. Afdeling, Rolighedsvej 25, 1958 Frederiksberg C, Denmark" at least 5 days before the import, stating the country of origin of the semen. A veterinary health certificate (forms can be ordered by fax). For semen from rabies countries the dog must be vaccinated against rabies at least 30 days and not more than 12 months before the collection of semen. The Kennel Club has no rules for litters by chilled imported semen. Frozen semen to be imported must have been collected by a veterinarian, who also issues a health certificate, and states that the dog has normal testicles. The dog must be ID-tattooed or micro chipped. The semen should be frozen in straws, which must be clearly marked. A special certificate that is necessary for registration of the litter, which can be ordered from the KC.

Finland (category 1)

The Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Jord- och skogsbruksministeriet), P.O. Box 30, 00023 Valtioneuvosto, Street address: Kluuvikatu 4A, Helsinki, Finland. Phone: +358-9-1601; +358-9-1602432; fax: +358-9-1603338; e-mail: outi.tyni@mmm.fi; web site: www.mmm.fi

The Finnish Kennel Club (Suomen Kennelliitto-Finska Kennelklubben r.y.) Kamreerintie 8, FI 02770 Espoo, Finland. www.kennelliitto.fi, phone: +358-9 887 300; fax: +358-9 8873 0331.

Requirements: None

France (categories 1 and 2)

The French Ministry of Agriculture (Direction Générale de L'Alimentation, Mission de Coordination Sanitaire Internationale), Rue de Vaugirard, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Phone: +33 - 149 55 84 84; Fax: +33-149 55 83 14, www.agriculture.gouv.fr

The French Kennel Club (Société Centrale Canine de France), 155, Avenue Jean Jaurès, F-93535 Aubervilliers Cedex, France. Phone: +33-1 49 37 54 00; Fax: +33-1 49 37 01 20.

www.scc.asso.fr,

Requirements: There are no requirements from the ministry for dog semen from EU-countries. Semen from non-EU-countries needs an import permit from: Service des Titres du Commerce Extérieur, 8, Rue de la Tour des Dames, 75436 Paris Cedex 09, France. Fax: +33-155 07 46 59. The French Kennel Club registers litters provided that the insemination is performed by a veterinarian who has followed a special course at one of the veterinary schools in Lyon, Maisons-Alfort or Nantes. Imported semen must be kept in an official dog semen bank before being sent to the inseminating veterinarian. Banks are located in the 3 veterinary schools mentioned above.

Germany (category 1)

The German Ministry of Agriculture (Bundesministerium für Verbraucherschutz, Ernährung und Landwirtschaft) Referat 327 Rochusstr. 1, D-53123 Bonn, Germany. Phone: +49-2285 290, FAX +49 228 529 4401, e-mail: 327@bml.bund.de. Referatsleiter: Dr. Valder (Tel +49 228 529 3618).

The German Kennel Club, (Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen, VDH), Westfalendamm 174, Postfach 10 41 54, D-44041 Dortmund, Germany. Phone: +49-231 565 00 0; Fax: +49-231 59 24 40. www.vdh.de. The relevant Breed Club should also be contacted, as some of them have their own regulations.

Requirements: None

Hungary (category 1)

The Hungarian Board of Agriculture (Földművelésügyi és Vidékfejlesztési Minisztérium), H-1860 Budapest 55.Pf.1, Hungary. Phone: +361-301 4000; Fax: +361-302 0408; email: miniszter@f-m.x400gw.itb.hu

The Hungarian Kennel Club (Magyar Ebtenyésztők Országos Egyesülete, MEOE), H-1116 Budapest, Tétényi út 128/b-130. Phone: +361-208 2300.

Requirements: None. The Kennel Club does not officially accept litters by AI, however, there is no control.

Italy (category 1)

The Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Phone: +39-06 599 438 23, email: dav.u10@sanita.it; www.politicheagricole.it.

The Italian Kennel Club (Ente Nazionale della Cinofilia Italiana, ENCI), Viale Corsica 20, 20137 Milano, Italy. Phone: +39-02 70 020 341; fax: +39-02 70 202 321; email: mond2000.enci@enci.it; www.enci.it.

Requirements: None specified/officially not allowed, but no control.

Japan (category ?)

The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, 1-1 Aza-Furugomi, Furugomi, Narita-shi, Chiba-ken 282-0004 Japan. Phone: +81-476 34 2342; Fax: +81-476 34 2338; www.animal-quarantine-service.go.jp.

The Japan Kennel Club, 1-5 Kanda, Suda-cho, chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8552, Japan. Phone: +81-3 32 511 651; Fax: +81-3 32 511 659. www.jkc.or.jp,

Requirements: (I will check this)

The Netherlands (category 1)

The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries www.minlnv.nl

The Dutch Kennel Club (Rad van Beheer), www.kennelclub.nl

Requirements: None.

New Zealand (categories 3+ and 4+)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, P.O. Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

www.maf.govt.nz/AnimallHS/countries3-5html,

The New Zealand Kennel Club, www.nzk.org.nz,

Requirements: From Australia: An import permit, a Zoo-sanitary certificate and a veterinary health certificate. Semen should have been collected in the presence of a veterinarian. The ampoules, straws or pellets containing the semen must be sealed following collection, identified with the details of the donor dog, securely packed in a new/unused container using coolant which has not been used for any other purpose, and been stored under veterinary supervision until the time of export. From The United Kingdom and The Republic of Ireland: An import permit. The original permit should accompany the consignment to New Zealand. A veterinary health certificate issued immediately before, and again between 3-6 weeks after the collection of the semen. A blood test for leptospirosis within 6 weeks before semen collection. A blood test for brucella canis between 3-6 weeks after collection of the semen. The donor dog must have been resident in the country for at least 2 months prior to the semen collection. Identification of the dog and straws etc as above. The country of export must have been free from rabies for at least 12 months, and the donor dog must not have been vaccinated against rabies with a live vaccine during the 6 months preceding collection of the semen. From Hawaii, Norway and Sweden: An import permit. The original permit should accompany the consignment to New Zealand. A health certificate issued immediately before, and again between 3-6 weeks after collection of the semen. A blood test for brucella canis taken during 14 days prior to semen collection. The donor dog must have been resident in the country for at least 2 months prior to the semen collection. The semen must be held frozen for at least 21 days after collection and a new veterinary certificate be made stating that the donor dog is still healthy. Identification of dog and straws etc as above. The country of export must have been free from rabies for at least 12 months, and the donor dog must not have been vaccinated against rabies with a live vaccine during the 6 months preceding collection of the semen. From Canada and The United States: As above with the following additions: The donor dog must not during the 6 months prior to semen collection have been on any property on which rabies has been diagnosed in the previous 12 months. The dog should be vaccinated against rabies with an inactivated cell culture origin vaccine, and the vaccination programme be completed not more than 12 months and not less than 30 days prior to semen collection. A blood test for brucella canis within 3-6 weeks after semen collection. A blood test for leptospirosis within 3-6 weeks after semen collection, or two tests not less than 30 days apart with no rise in titre between tests and treatment with specified antibiotics during the 30 days prior to semen collection.

Norway (categories 1, 3+ and 4+)

The Norwegian Ministry of Animal Health (Statens Dyrehelsetilsyn), Postboks 8147 Dep., N-0033 Oslo, Norway. Phone: +47-22 24 19 40; fax: +47-22 24 10 45; www.dyrehelstilsynet.no.

The Norwegian Kennel Club, (Norsk Kennel Klub, NKK), Pb 163 Bryn, 0611 Oslo, Norway. Phone: +47-21 600 900. www.nkk.no,

Requirements: No restrictions apply to semen *from Sweden*. *From EU/EFTA countries*: An import permit. A veterinary health certificate issued on a standard form accepted by the Ministry. The dog must be ID-tattooed or microchipped and this number appear on all certificates. The dog must be vaccinated against leptospirosis and rabies (unless from a rabies free country) within 365 days prior to semen collection. For dog semen *from outside of EU/EFTA* in addition: a blood test for brucella canis within 21 days prior to semen collection, and the dog must not have mated naturally in the period between the blood sampling and the semen collection. Bitches inseminated with the imported semen must not mate with another dog in the same oestrus period. Should an abortion occur the Ministry must be immediately notified.

Spain (category 1)

The Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Paseo Infanta Isabel 1, 280 14 Madrid, Spain. Phone: +34-91 347 5185; Fax: +34-91 347 5761; www.mapya.es/indices/pags/info/index.htm

The Spanish Kennel Club, (Real Sociedad Central de Fomento de Razas Caninas en España), Lagasca 16, Bajo derecha, 28001 Madrid, Spain. Phone: +34-91 426 49 60; Fax: +34-91 435 11 13--- +34-91 435 28 95. www.rsce.es,

Requirements: None. Not officially allowed.

Republic of South Africa (category 4)

National Department of Agriculture (Departement van Landbou), Directorate of Animal Health, Import-Export Control, Private Bag X138, Pretoria, 0001, Republic of South Africa. Phone: +27-012 319 75 14; fax: +27-012 329 82 92.

Kennel Union of Southern Africa, P.O. Box 2659, Cape Town 8000, South Africa. Phone: +27-21 23 90 27; Fax: +27-21 23 58 76.

Requirements: An import permit. The original permit should accompany the semen shipment. The permit is valid for 6 months and for one consignment only. A veterinary health certificate. A blood test for brucella canis taken at the time of semen collection.

Sweden (category 4)

Swedish Board of Agriculture (Statens Jordbruksverk), SE 551 82 Jönköping, Sweden. www.sjv.se; phone: +46 36 15 50 00; fax: +46 36 15 50 05.

Swedish Kennel Club, SE 163 85 Spånga, Sweden. www.skk.se; phone: +46 8 795 30 00; fax: +46 8 795 30 40.

Requirements: An import permit, which is valid for 12 months. A veterinary health certificate issued not more than 15 days before shipment. Blood tests for leptospira canicola and ichterohaemorrhagica, and brucella canis, to be marked with the identity of the dog. *For fresh semen* the blood sample must not be taken more than 15 days before semen collection and shipment; *for frozen semen* it should be taken not earlier than 20 days or later than 30 days *after* semen collection and freezing (i.e. during a 10-day-span). The Kennel Club requires that the identity of the dog is certified by the veterinarian collecting the semen. If the dog is not microchipped or ID-tattooed either a photograph of the dog should be signed by its owner and by the veterinarian collecting the semen, or a nose print is taken and signed as the photo. Photo or nose print should accompany the shipment of semen.

Switzerland (category 2)

Federal Veterinary Office (Bundesamt für Veterinärwesen), Schwarzenburgstrasse 161, CH-3003 Bern, Switzerland. www.bvet.admin.ch Phone: + 31-323 85 24/09; Fax: +31-323 85 22.

Swiss Kennel Club (Schweizerischen Kynologischen Gesellschaft), Postfach 8276, 3001 Bern, Switzerland. Phone: +31-306 62 62; fax: +31-306 62 60, email: skg@hundeweb.org; www.dogweb.org

Requirements: Just a formal import permit.

United Kingdom/Great Britain (category 3+)

Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF), 1A Page Street, London, SW1P 4PQ, United Kingdom. www.maff.gov.uk, email: germplasmimports@ahvg.maff.gov.uk, or: germplasmexports@ahvg.maff.gov.uk, both fax: +44-20 7904 6395.

The Kennel Club, Clarges street, London. www.the-kennel-club-org.uk,

Requirements: An import permit, which is valid for 8 months. *From rabies free countries:* Country disease clearance. A veterinary health certificate. The donor dog must have been resident in the country for the last 12 months and not been vaccinated against rabies with a live vaccine during the 6 months prior to semen collection. The semen must not be despatched until a new health check has been made after 14 days. *From non rabies free countries:* The dog must be microchipped. The semen must not be despatched from the exporting country until 6 months after the semen collection, and a new health certificate then be issued. The dog must not have been vaccinated against rabies with a live vaccine during the 6 months prior to semen collection. The dog must not be under any quarantine restrictions. The Kennel Club requests *prior application* for permission to perform AI.

United States of America (category 1)

United States Drug Administration (USDA) P.O. Box 3220, Minneapolis, MN 55403-1503, USA. American Kennel Club (AKC), 5580 Centerview Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-3390, USA. Phone: +1-919 233 9767 or +1-919 854 0124; fax: 01-919 233 3627 or +1-919 854 0102; www.akc.org.

Requirements: As from October 2000 no import permit is required for dog semen. The AKC requests a prior application to permit AI by imported semen. They also request a DNA sample, which can be ordered via email: dna@akc.org.