## GOVERNMENT OF THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS VETERINARY DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PARAQUITA BAY, TORTOLA

TEL: (284) 468-6123 FAX: (284) 468-6102

E-mail: bvigov\_vet@gov.vg

## Conditions for importation of rabbits:-

- 1) Rabbits must be accompanied by a **Health Certificate** issued by the \***Veterinary Authority** of the country of origin stating:
  - a) The country of origin has been free from Tularemia, Myxomatosis and Viral Hemorrhagic disease of rabbits for at least one year.
  - b) There have been no cases of Rabies in the establishment of origin for twelve months prior to shipment.
  - c) That rabbits originate from establishments that are regularly inspected by the Government Veterinary Officer and high standards are maintained.
  - d) That rabbits are born and bred or have been reared for at least twelve months in country for which this permit is issued.
  - e) That rabbits were examined and found free from clinical disease prior to export.
  - f) Animal(s) was/were treated against internal and external parasites (particularly coccidiosis and ear mange).
  - g) Rabbit(s) must be found clinically healthy on arrival.
- 2) All required conditions must be met, and all relevant documents (import permit, Veterinary Health certificate, Vaccination certificate, Lab test results, etc.) must be presented at port of entry in order to facilitate Veterinary clearance and to avoid the otherwise unpleasant, but necessary measures such as animals being kept in a facility, deportation or euthanasia.
- 3) The Veterinary Division must be given at least 24 hrs notice of confirmed arrival date, time, airline/vessel and port of entry. This will facilitate unnecessary delays, and avoid detention of animal(s) for Veterinary clearance at port of entry.
- 4) A fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each animal on the permit.

5) Animal(s) must be kept in confinement (carrier) until granted entry into the country. Failure to do so can cause entry of animal(s) being denied.

\*An official Health certificate is a document issued and certified by a Veterinarian working full time with the government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, DEFRA, etc.). The document may be filled out and signed by a licensed Veterinarian, <u>but must also be endorsed by a Government</u> Veterinarian.

Please be advised that these requirements are subject to change since animal disease status in various countries is dynamic. Therefore, the granting of permission for animals to enter the British Virgin Islands does not signify automatic entry. It is your responsibility to contact the Veterinary Division, Department of Agriculture to confirm that these conditions are current.

Last Update: June 2004