

Instructions for completing the “Veterinary Health Certificate for Export of Fertilized Salmonid Eggs” to Argentina

The export requirements for fertilized salmonid eggs to Argentina will depend on the species to be exported and the health status of the United States regarding the pathogens of concern. Follow the 3 steps below to determine what pre-export testing may be required and other export requirements before submitting a health certificate for APHIS endorsement.

If you have questions about how to complete this health certificate or how to meet the export requirements, please contact VETS.RAEF@usda.gov.

STEP 1: Pathogens of Concern

Argentina requires testing/freedom from the following pathogens of concern when exporting fertilized salmonid eggs:

- Epizootic hematopoietic necrosis virus (EHNV)
- Infectious salmon anemia virus (ISAV) – HPR0 & HPR-deleted
- Infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV)
- Viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV)

Step 2: Determine Species Susceptibility

Determine if the salmonid species to be exported is considered susceptible to the pathogens of concern to Argentina (see Step 1 above) using the [World Organisation for Animal Health \(WOAH\) Aquatic Code](#).

Review the pathogen-specific chapter in the WOA Aquatic Code for each of the pathogens of concern.

- If the species to be exported is considered **susceptible**, then pre-export testing or freedom is **required** prior to export.
 - For example, if exporting rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), this species is considered susceptible to EHNV, IHNV, ISAV, and VHSV per the WOA Aquatic Code, so either pre-export testing for or freedom from these pathogens is required prior to export.
- If the species is **NOT considered susceptible**, then pre-export testing/freedom is **NOT required**.

Step 3: Determine Testing/Freedom Requirements

If the species to be exported is NOT considered susceptible to a given pathogen of concern per Step 2 above, then enter “N/A” next to the pathogen in Statement #2 of the health certificate.

If the species to be exported is considered susceptible to a given pathogen of concern, and pre-export testing or freedom is required per Step 2 above, then use the following guidance to determine how to conduct pre-export testing or demonstrate freedom:

<u>Pathogen of Concern</u>	<u>Pre-export Options</u>		
	A. Country/ zone/ compartment-level freedom	B. Premises-freedom	C. Test-and-ship
EHN	N/A	<i>may be used</i>	<i>may be used</i>
ISAV HPR	N/A	<i>may be used</i>	<i>may be used</i>
ISAV HPR-deleted	N/A	<i>may be used</i>	<i>may be used</i>
IHN	N/A	<i>may be used</i>	<i>may be used</i>
VHSV	N/A	<i>may be used</i>	<i>may be used</i>

**NOTE: The options for pre-export testing or freedom in the table above will be updated as APHIS works to finalize official declarations of freedom and acceptance by trading partners is confirmed.*

- **For premises freedom**, Argentina specifies that sampling and testing must be conducted based on 95% confidence and 5% apparent predicted prevalence levels. If this option is allowed for a given pathogen of concern (see table above), then enter “B” next to the pathogen in Statement #2 of the health certificate.
 - Alternatively, premises that already meet the [APHIS Criteria for Establishing Premises Freedom](#) for a given pathogen of concern, also meet Argentina’s requirements for premises freedom.
- **For test-and-ship**, Argentina specifies that sampling and testing must be conducted based on 95% confidence and 5% apparent predicted prevalence levels. Testing must be conducted within 45 days from the date of sample collection to export. If this option is allowed for a given pathogen of concern (see table above), then enter “C” next to the pathogen in Statement #2 of the health certificate.

Additional Certification Information

Statement 2. References to broodstock testing and inspection in this health certificate refer to both male and female broodstock that were used to derive the fertilized eggs intended for export.

Statement 4. References to broodstock testing and inspection in this health certificate refer to both male and female broodstock that were used to derive the fertilized eggs intended for export.

Statement 5. WOAHA-approved salmonid egg disinfectants can be found in [Chapter 4.5. Recommendations for surface disinfection of salmonid eggs](#) of the WOAHA Aquatic Code.

Statement 6. Acceptable disinfectants may be found on the [APHIS Emergency Management: Disinfectants](#) web page.