

Exotic animal disease generic contingency plan

Draft exemption application letter to be sent by interested camelid owners to their local DVM (DEFRA).

Dear DVM

Following the October 2005 stakeholder meeting relating to the above plan, it is our understanding from discussions with the SVS, VEXDD and EDPC members present at that meeting that you will be willing to visit our premises and confirm (or otherwise) the suitability of those premises or part(s) thereof as a quarantine and isolation area constituting a separate epidemiological unit, wherein may be held camelids in the event of an outbreak of FMD.

It was the conclusion of that meeting that, providing we satisfy the following criteria, those camelids held within the isolation unit will be exempt from compulsory slaughter in the event of disease being suspected within a 10km radius, or any such other distance as shall at that time be deemed critical.

The isolation unit shall have a separate structure to the rest of the holding, to include its own airspace, and be of a suitable size.

The isolation unit shall have its own machinery, to include any equipment and washing and disinfection facilities.

The isolation unit shall be uniquely operated, so shall not share with any other livestock operation any personnel, feedstuffs or feeding equipment, pasture or grazing, or dung removal.

These criteria, if met for at least forty two (42) days prior to the suspicion of disease on or near the premises in other animals NOT within the quarantine isolation unit, will give best grounds for the exemption of the camelids within the quarantine isolation unit from compulsory slaughter.

It will be our intention to place our camelids within the unit as soon as FMD is suspected again within the UK or nearby on the EU mainland. We therefore eagerly await your advisory visit.