Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes Importers Guidance

Short Name: GUIDE-VEHICLE-ALL

Importers are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with this guidance document and the associated Import Health Standard and to seek DoA guidance if they are unclear on any part, prior to undertaking any activities relating to the importation of vehicles, machinery or mobile homes.

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Stanley
Falkland Islands

Foreword

The Falkland Islands Government Department of Agriculture (DoA), is the lead agency in the Falkland Islands biosecurity system. It is responsible for preventing the importation of unwanted pests and diseases, and shares responsibility with the Environmental Planning Department for controlling, managing or eradicating them should they arrive.

This guidance document has been issued to accompany the DoA Standard, *Import Health Standard for Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes - VEHICLE.ALL* (the "standard"). **It is not a legally binding document** and, although it can be read independently of the standard, it should be read in conjunction with it to ensure that all matters relating to meeting the requirements of the standard are fully understood.

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General Information

1. Introduction

This guidance document accompanies the DoA *Import Health Standard for Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes - VEHICLE.ALL* (the "standard"). It provides importers and other affected stakeholders of vehicles/machinery/mobile homes/vehicle parts/tyres (shortened to "vehicles/machinery" for the purposes of this guidance document) with explanatory information, options and expectations to assist them in meeting the requirements of the standard and what actions DoA will undertake to verify compliance. It also outlines the accepted processes and procedures that supply chain parties and DoA inspectors should follow to control, manage or eradicate biosecurity risk organisms and contamination associated with vehicles/machinery in the absence of DoA approved equivalent measures.

2. Failure to Meet Biosecurity Requirements - Non Compliance

Vehicles/machinery that do not meet the requirements of the standard will not be given biosecurity clearance and will be directed for further action (e.g., decontamination) as considered appropriate to manage the biosecurity risks and meet the requirements of the standard. Deliberate non-compliance with the requirements of the standard, or negligence leading to non-compliance, may lead to increased intervention or prosecution of liable parties.

3. Biosecurity Outcome

The desired outcome of the standard is that biosecurity risk organisms associated with vehicles/machinery are prevented from crossing the Falkland Islands' border and establishing. Such establishment could adversely impact the environment, economy or health and safety of our people and community.

To achieve this outcome, biosecurity contaminants associated with vehicles/machinery need to be managed effectively and efficiently and in ways that do not unnecessarily impede trade and tourism.

4. Meeting Biosecurity Requirements

4.1 General

The standard requires that **all vehicles/machinery/mobile homes/vehicle parts/tyres imported into the Falklands are clean.** The aim of undertaking any action to clean vehicles/machinery is to ensure that biosecurity risk organisms are not present.

To achieve this requirement, vehicles/machinery must be cleaned internally and externally, especially including those areas not readily accessible to physical inspection. This necessitates biosecurity interventions additional to physical inspection to ensure the requirement is met.

4.2 Inspection Checklist

Below is a check list to follow to ensure all areas of the car have been cleaned prior to importation.

Steps	Area to inspect and clean	Complete
1	Clean the grille and front of vehicle	☐
2	Clean across and under the bonnet and air vents	☐
3	Clean front wheel, mud guards and wheel arch	☐
4	Clean mirrors and window ledges	☐
5	Clean across and around the roof	☐
6	Clean back wheel, mud guards and wheel arch	☐
7	Clean back bumper area	☐
8	Repeat the entire process on the other side of the vehicle	☐
9	Open bonnet and thoroughly clean motor area. Remember to use a torch to make sure all motor crevices have been cleaned.	☐
10	Clean all interior areas of vehicle, including all compartments, under carpet if loose, under mats, between and under the seats	☐
11	Clean the underside of vehicle	☐

4.4 Contamination

Best ways to remove contamination:

Insect infestation – If you can see many living insects in or on the vehicle, fumigation or heat treatment should be carried out. This also applies if animal hair is found in the vehicle as this may mean that flea eggs or larvae are present in the vehicle.

Insects/snails – remove.

Plant material – remove. If found in the interior, use a vacuum cleaner. If that vacuum is going to be imported along with the vehicle as personal effects, remember to remove the vacuum bag beforehand, or empty & clean bagless cleaners.

Seeds - hand pick seeds off with sticky tape or equivalent. Loose seeds can be vacuumed from interior.

Soil – pressure hose on exterior.

4.5 Information

In order to verify that biosecurity requirements have been met for each vehicle/unit of machinery, the following documentation is needed, which can be displayed in the vehicle or sent to the DoA. This documentation must accompany all vehicles/units of machinery arriving in the Falkland Islands.

- Evidence of pre-export inspections or treatments if available
- Vehicles, Machinery and Mobile Homes Declaration giving full details of;
    - Contact details of the consignor and consignee
    - Country of origin
    - Registration number / ID
    - Description of Consignment (make and model)
    - Completed and signed by the exporter
- Used agricultural and horticultural machinery,
- New vehicles/machinery that have become contaminated during transit, and

- Any other vehicle/unit of machinery that, by its very nature, use, source, history or other such factor, has been determined by an inspector to require treatment (e.g., garbage trucks, slurry tankers).

Please note: If personal effects are accompanying a vehicle, you need to declare and package them separately as biosecurity officers must be able to verify the cleanliness of the vehicle on arrival. Any associated unloading or additional inspection costs will be the responsibly of the importer.

Vehicle Interior

Interior areas of a vehicle include the boot, between and under car seats, ceiling areas, floor surfaces, side panels, all compartments, the spare tyre and its storage area.

Check the boot for insects, plant material, seeds, soil and spiders and animal hair. Vacuum the boot interior.

Look for egg masses and insects on both sides of the spare tyre, check the surrounding area. The tyre tray should be cleaned and vacuumed.

Vacuum under and between car seats. Plant material, seeds and wood chips must be removed. Check for animal hair and any signs of fleas.

NOTE: The Falkland Islands are free from cat & dog fleas. To keep it that way pay special attention in removing all animal hair, flea dirt or fleas by vacuuming and applying residual insecticide such as 'RIP Fleas'. If the vehicle has been infested with fleas, it should be fumigated or heat treated prior to export. Contact DoA for more information.

Vehicle Exterior

Exterior surfaces include bumpers, grates, hubcaps, mud guards, trays, tyres and wheels.

Remove hubcap to check underneath for eggs masses, insects, plant material, spiders and soil

A light road film on the wheel is ok, but more than that is not considered clean, especially if plant material, seeds or soil clumps are found.

Look for egg masses, insects and spider webbing in and around the bumper and grates.

Look for plant material in exterior compartments and trays. Remove any pooled water from the vehicle.

Thoroughly check mudguards, tyres and wheel arches for soil and seeds.
Water blasting may be best to remove soil in these areas.

If mud guards are covered in felt, thorough scrubbing or water blasting is often required, especially around the wheel arch.

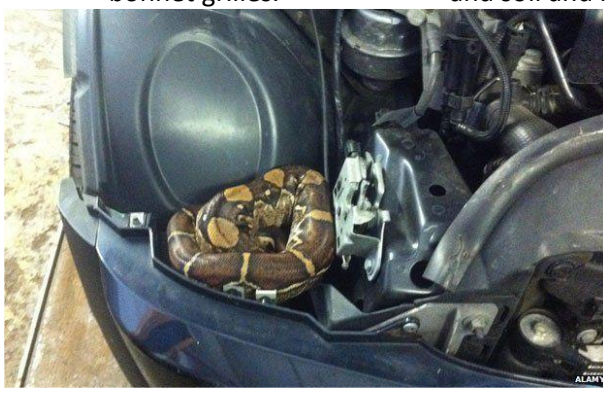
Motor

Motor area includes in and around motor, crevices and bonnet area.

Look for insects, plant material and spiders in and around bonnet grilles.

Wipe down surfaces that may contain plant material, seeds, and soil and remove it all.

Look for insects, plant material and spiders in corners/crevices.



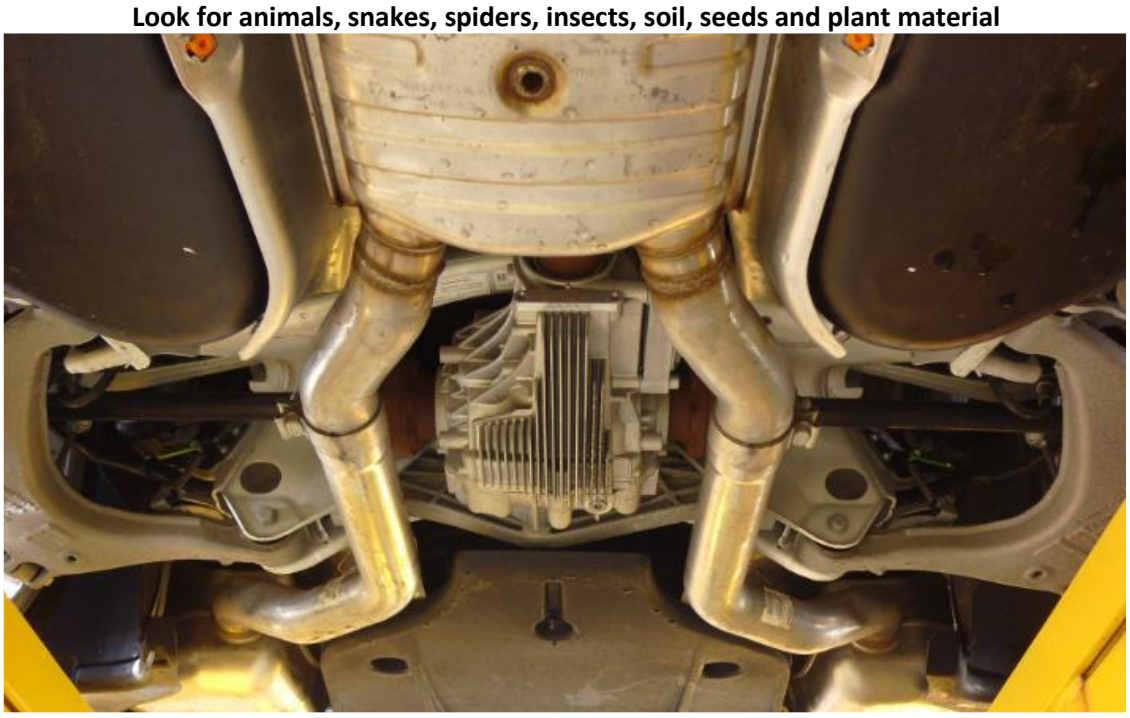
Look out for reptiles and snakes (especially if originating outside the UK). They are attracted to warmth and confined spaces such as motors.

If the underside of the bonnet is covered in felt, a thorough scrubbing/water blasting may be needed to remove plant material and seeds.

Use a bright light to illuminate all motor crevices. Ensure insects, plant material and spiders are removed from the motor.

Vehicle Underside

Look for animals, snakes, spiders, insects, soil, seeds and plant material



Use a bright torch to inspect what you can of the vehicle underside. A high pressured water hose can help clean what you may not be able to see.