

<p>ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p><u>SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT</u></p> <p>ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION</p> <p>Importation of Equine</p> <p>A.A.C. R3-2-615</p>	<p>DIVISION/ PROGRAM ASD</p>
	<p>SP 20-02</p>
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	<p>SIGNATURE 8/31/2020</p> <p>DATE</p>

This Substantive Policy Statement is advisory only. A Substantive Policy Statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona administrative procedure act. If you believe that this Substantive Policy Statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 41-1033, for a review of the statement.

1. BACKGROUND

Importation of Equine into the state of Arizona must be conducted in accordance with Title 3, Chapter 2, Article 6 of the Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C."), specifically A.A.C. R3-2-615, which was recently amended.

A.A.C. R3-2-615 requires that all equines, regardless of age, must obtain either a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) or an Extended Equine Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (EECVI) attesting to the absence of equine infectious anemia in order to come into Arizona. In order to obtain an EECVI under the amended version of A.A.C. R3-2-615, it is also required that the listed equine be identified by a microchip. This new requirement has been alleged to be excessively restrictive.

2. POLICY

The Department interprets the term "equine" to be synonymous with the term "equid," so as to include all members of taxonomic family Equidae.

Until further notice, and unless the Department receives evidence to believe that equines have been misidentified, the Department will not enforce the microchip requirement in A.A.C. R3-2-615, provided that identification is proven by digital photographs consisting of 3 full (from ears to hooves) views of the individual equine (left side, right side & head) and close-up digital photographs of distinguishing marks.

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Substantive Policy Statement is effective as of the date indicated above.