

Department of the Environment

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Code of Practice for the selection of isolation premises for imported livestock

Pigs, sheep and goats can only be imported into Jersey under licence and subject to a strict set of criteria designed to stop certain animal diseases spreading to the island (details are available from the Department of the Environment). Imported animals have to be isolated on arrival in Jersey for a period lasting between one and six months. The isolation premises will have to be approved by the States Veterinary Officer (SVO) prior to the importation taking place. The following criteria will be used by the SVO when considering if the isolation premises you have selected are suitable for the purpose.

The premises/field used for isolating imported farm livestock will:-

1. be of an adequate size and design for the type and number of animals to be imported.
2. be able to meet the animal welfare needs of the imported animals as stated in the Jersey Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Pigs, Sheep or Goats.
3. be located a sufficient distance away from other farm animals.
4. be located (if possible) away from roads, tracks, footpaths and bridle ways.
5. be capable of having access restricted to essential people only.
6. be constructed or fenced to ensure the animals cannot escape or stray.

In addition strict biosecurity measures will need to be put in place at the entrance of the premises/field to enable all clothing, vehicles and equipment used in the management of the animals to be thoroughly disinfected. It is recommended that a separate set of clothing and equipment is maintained at the isolation premises especially if owners/keepers will be in contact with other farm animals. If possible adequate supplies of feedstuffs should be placed at the isolation premises to cover the needs of the animals for the entire isolation period.

Please note that the imported animals cannot be moved from the isolation premises until the required tests have been undertaken and satisfactory results received. The SVO will confirm the release from isolation in writing. If, for any reason the animals have to be moved prior to the end of the isolation period the SVO must approve the new premises before relocation can be undertaken.