

SHIPPING AN ANIMAL TO JAPAN? MUST START 7 MONTHS OUT!

Shipping minus 210 days: An animal greater than 91 days old needs to have a microchip prior to two rabies vaccines. These vaccines must be greater than 31 days apart. At this time you must also draw blood for a FAVN. Unless the animal has a current FAVN (within 2 years of arrival in Japan). The results of the FAVN test are best received 180 days prior to arrival. Japan's 180 day quarantine begins on the date of receipt of results of the FAVN. If everything is in order the quarantine period can be reduced to 12 hours upon arrival. **There must be NO laps in rabies status from the time the FAVN was drawn!**

!Animals other than dogs and cats are required to have the 180 day quarantine upon arrival!

40 days prior to shipping the owner must notify the Animal Quarantine Station responsible for the port at which the animal will arrive. Dogs being shipped must have "NOTIFICATION OF IMPORT INSPECTION OF DOG" and cats must have "NOTIFICATION OF IMPORT OF ANIMALS UNDER THE RABIES PREVENTION LAW". If there are changes after the notification is sent, the owners must send "MODIFICATION ON NOTIFICATION OF IMPORT OF ANIMALS". These forms can be found at <http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/>. The Animal Quarantine Service may contact the owner regarding quarantine, so accurate contact information is necessary. The forms must be faxed or mailed to the Animal Quarantine Service. The forms will be returned to the owner and must be presented upon arrival at the port. If an animal is going to require quarantine, the owner must notify the Quarantine Service if they are to be kept at a Quarantine site other than the Station with jurisdiction over the port of arrival.

Clinical inspection before departure. Before departure (2 days or less if possible), have a veterinarian give the pet a clinical inspection to confirm that the animal does not have or is not suspected of having rabies (in the case of dogs, rabies or leptospirosis). Also, be sure to obtain a health certificate from either a military veterinarian or the USDA, that will not expire until after you have arrived in Japan.

Documents to bring with you:

- Proof of microchip with the microchip number, date of insertion and location on the animal.
- Rabies certificates proving immunization with killed or recombinant vaccine given at appropriate time intervals
- FAVN results showing an antibody titer of 0.5 IU/ml or above.
- Veterinarian inspection stating that the animal does not have or is not suspected of having rabies (or leptospirosis).
- Proof of any other vaccinations the animal is current on and any treatment of parasites both internal and external no more than 4 days before shipping. (These are recommended but not necessary).

1 to 4 days before arrival in Japan, the owner should contact the Quarantine Service via telephone, fax, or email, with the advanced notification receipt number, flight number or ship name, and scheduled arrival time and port of arrival.