

## Advanced measures for the prevention and control of rabies

Adopted on 11.03.2022 No. 14

The Regulation is established on the basis of Section 55 (3) of the Veterinary Act .

### § 1. Scope of regulation

The decree establishes more precise measures for the prevention and control of rabies.

### § 2. Notification of suspicion of rabies

The animal keeper shall immediately notify the veterinarian of an attack by a wild animal behaving abnormally or with clinical signs characteristic of rabies on an animal kept by the animal keeper.

### § 3. Dog and cat vaccination

(1) The animal keeper ensures that the dog or cat he keeps is vaccinated against rabies (hereinafter *vaccination* ). The animal is vaccinated for the first time no later than the 21st week of life.

(2) After vaccinating the animal, the veterinarian issues a document certifying the vaccination to the animal keeper, on which the date of vaccination of the animal and the deadline for re-vaccination are noted.

(3) If Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 of the European Parliament and Council on the non-commercial movement of pets has been issued for the animal, which repeals Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003 (OJ L 178, 28.06.2013, pp. 1–26) , a suitable identification document, the date of vaccination and the deadline for re-vaccination are indicated there.

(4) The animal keeper shall keep the document specified in subsection 2 until the next vaccination of the animal in accordance with subsection 6.

(5) When a hunting dog is taken to the forest for the first time or placed in a situation where it may come into contact with a wild animal, at least 30 days must have passed since the dog's vaccination.

(6) The animal is re-vaccinated according to the leaflet accompanying the vaccine, but not less often than 24 months after the last vaccination.

### § 4. Detailed measures in case of suspicion and diagnosis of rabies in a wild animal

(1) The carcass of a wild animal that died for an unknown reason is destroyed in accordance with the instructions of the Agriculture and Food Board in cooperation with the owner of the land, the local government unit, the Environmental Board and the person holding the right to hunt.

(2) The carcass of a wild animal with a confirmed diagnosis of rabies is destroyed by order of the Agriculture and Food Board under Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which lays down the health regulations for animal by-products and products derived from them intended for purposes other than human consumption and repeals Regulation (EC) No. 1774/2002 (animal by-products regulation) (OJ L 300, 14.11.2009, pp. 1–33), according to Article 12.

(3) A wild animal suspected of having rabies based on clinical signs shall be killed in accordance with the order of the Agriculture and Food Board. The Agriculture and Food Board takes a sample from the slaughtered animal for rabies research. After taking the sample, the carcass of the wild animal is destroyed in accordance with paragraph 2.

### § 5. Bringing a wild mammal into artificial conditions

(1) The introduction of a wild mammal into artificial conditions is coordinated with the Agriculture and Food Board in accordance with § 3 of the Nature Conservation Act, and measures are taken to prevent the spread of animal diseases.

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(2) The person who brings a wild mammal into industrial conditions places the animal in quarantine for 30 days, monitors the animal's health and behavior, and immediately informs the Agriculture and Food Board of any abnormality in the animal's health found during the monitoring of the animal.

### § 6. Detailed measures for dogs and cats suspected of rabies

(1) A dog or cat suspected of having rabies is quarantined for at least 14 days in a fenced area or in a separate closed room in accordance with the order of the Agriculture and Food Board.

(2) If rabies is not confirmed in the animal specified in subsection 1 within 14 days, the Agriculture and Food Board will examine the animal, if necessary vaccinate the animal and terminate the quarantine.

### § 7. Detailed measures in case of suspicion of rabies in bitten dogs and cats

(1) If a rabies-suspected animal has bitten a vaccinated dog or cat, such dog or cat is placed in quarantine for at least 14 days in a fenced area or in a separate closed room and revaccinated as soon as possible.

(2) If an animal suspected of rabies has bitten an unvaccinated dog or cat, such dog or cat shall be killed or quarantined for three months.

**§ 8. Execution of rabies suspect and animal with rabies and taking research material**

(1) If an animal is diagnosed with rabies on the basis of clinical signs and the animal keeper cannot safely isolate the animal or the animal keeper cannot be identified, the Agriculture and Food Board shall arrange for the animal to be killed.

(2) A rabies suspect and a rabid animal must be executed in a way that does not damage the animal's head.

(3) The veterinarian or the Agriculture and Food Board takes the research material from the slaughtered animal for laboratory examination.

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