



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

AGES AND VACCINATIONS

- 0 Weeks > 8 Weeks (2 Months)

No puppy or kitten may be transported via air if under 8 weeks of age under any circumstances. This is an SPCA requirements as well as an IATA Live Animal Regulations requirement and some airlines do actually require that they are even older than 8 weeks to be able to fly. We therefore advocate further that any responsible person or company should strongly consider not flying any puppies or kittens unless the animal is at least 10 or 12 weeks of age as even the minimum requirement of 8 weeks is still very young to fly the animal. The "IATA LAR CR 1" recommends that any puppies/kittens under 12 weeks must have a veterinary certificate stating that the animal is fit for the specific journey;

- 8 Weeks (2 Months) > 16 Weeks (4 Months)

When an animal is flown of an age between 8 weeks and 16 weeks, whether the animal was vaccinated at 12 weeks or not, the animal must be accompanied with proof of the mother's vaccination (For the mothers vaccination to be considered valid she must have received her vaccination at least 30 days but not longer than 12 months prior to giving birth to the specific animal);

- 16 Weeks (4 Months) > Older

Any animal of an age over 16 weeks must have proof that it was vaccinated at least 30 days prior before it is allowed to fly (The animal may only be vaccinated at 12 weeks and may not fly for 30 days post vaccination).

WHO MAY VACCINATED AN ANIMAL IN ORDER TO FLY

The following was made clear by a State Veterinarian:

1. Any vaccination given by a non-veterinarian person is not a valid vaccination because a non-veterinarian person may not issue a vaccination certificate;
2. Only a registered veterinarian may issue a vaccination certificate for an animal;
3. Any person vaccinating an animal and issues a vaccination certificate is transgressing the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Act and may be liable for prosecution.

In simple terms, the above three points mean that any puppies or kittens that have been vaccinated by any person who is not a registered veterinarian, may not be accepted to fly.

INFORMATION IN THE ANIMALS VET BOOK

Please note that any information (dates of birth, vaccination dates, names of owners or animals or any other information) in the animal's Vet Book that has been "scratched out", "edited", "tippexed out" and/or "corrected" may result in it not be accepted as such information may be fraudulent. The animal will then not be allowed to fly.

Kind Regards,



DR. N.F. NAUDE
STATE VETERINARIAN
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