



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
VETERINARY SERVICES
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ANIMAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORY

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COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR THE ANIMAL RECEPTION CENTRE

Upon arrival into Barbados, pets are transported to the Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Reception Centre (ARC) for veterinary checks and Customs clearance. Since the ARC is a small facility, protocols have been put in place to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and to reduce potential exposure of veterinary and airport personnel to the disease from arriving passengers.

Pets arriving on commercial flights transported in the hold of the aircraft will be removed by the airline handling agents and transported directly to the ARC.

Pets arriving in the cabin or on private aircraft must be placed in a secure carrier bag or crate and handed directly to the local airline agent, immediately upon exiting the airplane, for transport to the ARC. Documents must be sent with the animal.

Access to the ARC will be determined by quarantine status. Arriving passengers cleared by the Ministry of Health and Wellness for non-quarantine entry into Barbados will be allowed to come to the ARC. Only one (1) arriving passenger will be allowed to enter the ARC, if necessary.

Where arriving passengers are not allowed to come to the ARC, arrangements must be made for a local representative (e.g. a family member, friend, pet transport service or the Customs Broker) to receive the pet at the ARC.

Masks must be worn at all times by persons entering the ARC. Hand sanitisation on entry is mandatory. No more than two (2) persons will be allowed to enter at any given time.

These protocols are subject to change as the situation warrants.