

Question for written answer E-003315/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Alex Mayer (S&D)

Subject: Pet passports and requirements for non-EU laboratories

The EU's pet passport scheme allows the free movement of dogs, cats and ferrets throughout Europe. The passport is also proof that the animal has been treated against certain diseases. If someone wants to bring their pet from outside the EU, it must be tested in an EU-approved laboratory. There is a risk that there are animals coming into EU Member States that may not have been tested properly, especially if they are bred for illegal sale in the EU. It is therefore important to keep a record of the animals tested, including the transponder numbers.

The pre-entry rabies antibody titration tests required for dogs, cats and ferrets entering the EU from a territory or a third country not listed in Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 are performed in rabies serology laboratories approved in accordance with Council Decision 2000/258/EC.

1. Can the Commission clarify whether there are requirements for approved laboratories to keep information about the tested animals, and if so, under what timeframe?
2. Can the Commission clarify whether this information is accessible to veterinarians across the EU and whether it can be recovered just with the animal's transponder number?
3. Does the Commission plan to introduce a database of transponder numbers with the dates of entry of the pets into the EU from third countries?