

## SPECIFICATIONS FOR BREEDING SAHIWAL BULLS



These specifications outline the minimum requirements for breeding Sahiwal bulls to be supplied under the Uganda Climate Smart Agriculture Transformation Project. Suppliers must ensure that all bulls meet the standards stated below to qualify for consideration.

### 1. General identification

- **Breed:** Sahiwal of at least 87.5% Sahiwal blood (high-grade).
- **Identification:** RFID Ear-tagged, or microchipped, with traceable pedigree (sire, dam, Artificial Insemination or Embryo transfer details).
- **Age:** 15–18 months.
- **Size:** Height at the withers: 135 –141 cm, Weight: Minimum 400 kg at 15 months.
- **Head:** Medium head, convex forehead, large pendulous ears, pigmented muzzle.
- **Hide/ Coat:** Loose skin; reddish-brown to mahogany coat. The colour often darkens on the head, neck, legs, shoulder area and hump.
- **Hump:** Large, fatty, falls on one side.
- **Dewlap:** Prominent and pendulous.
- **Neck and Shoulders:** strong, thick and well muscular.

### 2. Physical and conformation attributes

- **Visual Appraisal:** Bright demeanor; moves freely, striking the ground evenly with each hoof; must walk easily without discomfort; proper slope/angle of joints; claws free from defects; joints free of swelling and inflammation; must be able to see, eat, smell; and eyes should be free from injuries, disease, cancer growths, or pink eye scars.
- **Body condition score:** A condition score of 3.5 – 4.5 on a 5-point scale (well-fleshed, not emaciated or overweight)
- **Legs & Hooves:** Front legs: right angle (90°) from shoulder to elbow, parallel to each other; Hind legs: Strong, parallel, hooves slightly turned outward (~20°).

### 3. Reproductive/Physiological Specifications

- **Reproductive Organs:** Penis and Sheath pendulous but not excessive; free from warts, sores, adhesions, or lacerations; Penis extends in a straight line from the sheath when erect.
- **Scrotum & Testes:** Well-formed scrotum, bottle-neck shaped scrotum (pendulous and symmetrical); Minimum scrotal circumference:  $\geq 34$  cm at 15 months. Evenly balanced testes, free from abnormalities.

### 4. Pedigree and other Records

- **Pedigree Records:** 3-generation pedigree showing parentage.

### 5. Health & Management Standards

- **Veterinary Health Certificate:** Issued by the State Competent Veterinary Authority to confirm good health status, and disease-free condition.
- **Vaccinations:** Up-to-date vaccination records for CBPP, lumpy skin disease, brucellosis, FMD, and any other vaccine preventable disease that the Commissioner Veterinary Regulation and Quality Assurance may deem fit for vaccination.
- **Deworming:** Recently (not more than 2 months) treated for internal and external parasites.
- **Disease-Free Status:**
  - Negative tests for FMD, CBPP, Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Johne's disease, and any other vaccine preventable disease as shall be guided by the Commissioner Veterinary Regulation and Quality Assurance from time to time.
  - Free from, lameness, and metabolic disorders.

### 6. Source and Pre-Shipment Requirements

- The bulls must be sourced from approved tropical or subtropical breeding farms accredited by veterinary authorities in the exporting country and approved by the project.
- A Pre-shipment Inspection Mission shall be conducted by the Ugandan project verification team (or its appointed agent) to confirm:
  - Pedigree and production records.
  - Animal health and welfare conditions.
  - Facility and holding conditions.

- **Export Quarantine:**
  - Minimum 21 days under veterinary supervision before shipment.
  - Pre-export testing for major transboundary animal diseases.
- Animals must be accompanied by:
  - **International Veterinary Health Certificate (IVHC)** obtained from the country of origin/issued by the exporting country.
  - **Import Permit** issued by MAAIF (Department of Veterinary Regulation and Quality Assurance).
  - **Airway Bill or Bill of Lading** showing transport conditions.

## 7. Animal Welfare Requirements

- Compliance with World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) Animal Welfare Standards, the Animal Diseases Act (Uganda), and the Animal Welfare Code of Uganda (2017).
- Animals must be handled gently at all stages including selection, loading, transit, and delivery.
- Feed, water, and shade must be provided during waiting and holding periods.
- No animal showing signs of sickness or lameness, shall be shipped.
- Handling staff must be trained in humane livestock management and stress minimization.
- Any mortality, or injury during transport must be immediately reported to the responsible veterinary authority.

## 8. Transportation Standards

### (a) International Transport

- The bulls shall be shipped by air or sea in line with the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) and WOAH guidelines.
- Containers/crates must:
  - Allow the animal to stand, lie, and turn freely.
  - Provide adequate ventilation and absorbent bedding.
  - Be clearly labeled with “LIVE ANIMALS” and orientation arrows.
- Adequate feed and water must be supplied during transit, with rest periods scheduled for long journeys.

### (b) Inland Transport in Uganda

- Upon arrival, animals shall be transported in approved livestock trucks under to the quarantine station.
- Vehicles must be disinfected before and after loading, and provide:
  - Proper ventilation and weather protection.
  - Non-slip flooring and partitions to prevent overcrowding or injury.
- Maximum journey duration to quarantine: not more than 8 hours.

## 9. Quarantine Procedures in Uganda

- **Duration:** Minimum 30 days post-arrival in an approved MAAIF quarantine station.
- **Purpose:** Disease diagnosis, monitoring, acclimatization, and re-vaccination as required.
- Activities during quarantine shall include:
  - Daily veterinary monitoring and record-keeping.
  - Diagnostic testing for FMD, CBPP, Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Johne's Disease, and others as directed.
  - Deworming, ectoparasite control, and booster vaccinations.
  - Isolation of sick animals and immediate reporting of abnormalities.
- Release from quarantine shall be authorized only after issuance of a Post-Quarantine Health Clearance Certificate by the Commissioner for Animal Production and Health.

## 10. Veterinary Certification Requirements

Each consignment must be accompanied by:

1. **International Veterinary Health Certificate** (endorsed by the Competent Veterinary Authority in the exporting country).
2. **Import Permit** issued by MAAIF prior to shipment.
3. **Post-Quarantine Health Certificate** upon release in Uganda.
4. **Laboratory test results** confirming disease-free status.
5. **Vaccination record**, including vaccine type, batch number, and date.
6. **Pedigree verification** and source farm accreditation documents.

## 11. Delivery and Distribution to Farmers

- After release from quarantine, animals shall be transported under veterinary supervision to designated farmer beneficiaries.
- Delivery records shall include:
  - Animal identification (ear tag/microchip number).
  - Destination and recipient details.
  - Transport conditions and welfare checks.
- Only animals with valid Veterinary Movement Permits and Post-Quarantine Health Certificates may be delivered.
- A handover verification shall be signed by the project veterinary officer and the beneficiary farmer.

## 12. Compliance and Monitoring

- Project verification and MAAIF officers shall conduct:
  - Random audits of welfare, quarantine, and transport facilities.
  - Field follow-up to assess post-delivery adaptation and health.
- Non-compliance will attract:
  - Rejection of consignment or return at supplier's cost.
  - Suspension or delisting from the approved supplier registry.
  - Possible prosecution under Ugandan Animal Health laws.

### **13. Documentation and Reporting**

Suppliers and transporters must submit:

- Pre-export veterinary certificates and test results.
  - Quarantine daily monitoring logs.
  - Transport logs and welfare incident reports.
  - Final veterinary clearance certificate upon handover.
- All records must be archived for at least 24 months for verification and audit.

### **14. Responsibilities of the Project**

The Project Management Unit (PMU) shall:

- Coordinate veterinary inspections and import clearances with MAAIF.
- Maintain a registry of approved exporters, quarantine facilities, and local transporters.
- Facilitate training for suppliers and quarantine staff on welfare and biosecurity.
- Ensure traceability and welfare compliance through digital livestock identification (RFID Ear tags or microchips).