

Case of rabies in a puppy illegally imported from Morocco - Information and prevention

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty (MASA) recently drew the attention of the DGAC to a case of rabies in a puppy arriving by plane in Toulon on January 5, 2024. The case is confirmed. The animal, imported from Morocco, died thirteen days after its introduction into France. The puppy had been vaccinated against rabies on December 15, 2023 in Morocco but had been imported without an official health certificate (only certificate of good health), without titration and without waiting for the 3 month period before introduction into France.

The Government wishes to point out that imports that do not comply with current European regulations from countries with a high rabies risk pose an extremely serious risk to human and animal health. As recalled during previous communication campaigns addressed to your services, rabies is a systematically fatal disease once symptoms appear, both in humans and animals. Contamination to humans occurs by bite, scratch, licking by an animal, by means of saliva on damaged skin or on mucous membranes (eye, mouth).

Airlines are asked to exercise the greatest vigilance, via their agents, during documentary checks on imports of domestic carnivores introduced into France from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, countries in which rabies is circulating. currently strongly.

To help you, MASA provides you with the following resources on its website: a "Beware of rage" file <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/gare-la-rage> and a communication kit: <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/campagne-gare-la-rage-kit-de-communication>

We thank you for ensuring appropriate dissemination, particularly among travelers to or from risk areas.

Remaining at your disposal,

Sincerely,

The office of the Director General of Civil Aviation