U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS) VETERINARY SERVICES (VS) NATIONAL CENTER FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT (NCIE) IMPORT ANIMALS

DATE: December 2, 1997	FROM: ROGER PERKINS
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REMARKS:

Dear Dr. Wiesman

At your request, I am providing comment on a container which you are interested in marketing as a shipping container to be used for movement of fresh chilled animal semen internationally.

Although a port veterinarian cannot accept a shipment which is packaged in an unsatisfactory manner, there is no system in place for APHIS to approve a commercial container for use in shipment of semen.

In late October I received a prototype shipping container bearing a postmark of October 27, 1997. This container is double thickness of cardboard, the closure is accomplished by inserting cardboard flaps well into the sides of the container, and holes are provided to accommodate placement of an official seal.

This container appears satisfactory for the intended purpose. An official seal can be applied. Furthermore, the construction of the box as a single unit prevents entry into the container without creating an obvious disruption of the box or the seal.

