

Export Certification Module

OBJECTIVE

After completing this module, you will be able to conduct export certification duties according to Agency guidance.

RESOURCE MATERIALS

- FSIS Directive 9000.1
- FSIS Form 9060-6
- FSIS Directive 9010.1
- FSIS Directive 9040.1, Revision 2
- FSIS Library of Export Requirements (FSIS web site)
- “Exporting from the United States” (FSIS web site)

INTRODUCTION

Before we get into the details regarding export certification, let’s cover some basics. First, what is meant by the term “export?” The Webster’s Dictionary definition of the word “export” is, “to send goods from one country to another for the purpose of sale.” In this case, we are interested in meat, poultry, and egg products that are being shipped from the U.S. to other countries throughout the world. We won’t get into the details of this, but typically governments have a process whereby they require countries who want to send products for sale must apply for approval. That is a country certification process. It’s handled by staff at FSIS headquarters. It may involve visits to the country that is exporting the product to verify that their system is operating effectively. You can learn more about this process by going to the FSIS web site and searching on the key word “exports.” Each country has its own set of requirements. Those requirements change frequently. You can view the most current country requirements by going to the FSIS web site and searching for “library of export requirements.”

What is the purpose of export certification? Export certification, which is signified by the stamp “USDA Approved for Export” with the certificate number listed indicates that the product that is going out of the U.S. to another country has been inspected by FSIS and found to be wholesome and not adulterated.

REGULATORY REFERENCES

FMIA 615 – Inspection of carcasses, meat of which is intended for export

FMIA 616 – Inspectors and certificates

FMIA 617 – Clearance prohibited to vessel without certificate

FMIA 618 – Certificates and copies

Let’s review the regulatory references related to your export certification duties. There are several provisions of the FMIA related to exported product.

Section 615 states: “The Secretary shall also cause to be made a careful inspection of the carcasses and parts thereof of all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines, the meat of which, fresh, salted, canned, corned, packed, cured, or otherwise prepared, is

intended and offered for export to any foreign country, at such times and places and in such manner as he may deem proper.” This gives FSIS the authority to conduct inspections of products to be exported.

Section 616 states that the Secretary may appoint inspectors who will be authorized to give an official certificate stating the condition of the meat that is inspected.

Section 617 indicates that any shipper must have a certificate that indicates the meat to be shipped is sound and wholesome at the time of shipping.

Section 618 states that the official certificates of the condition of the meat will go to FSIS, the owner/shipper, and the vessel that will transport the meat to another country.

Livestock regulations:

- 9 CFR 322.1 – Marking products for export
- 9 CFR 322.2 – Export certificates
- 9 CFR 322.3 – Transferring products for export
- 9 CFR 322.4 – Clearance of vessels and transportation

Now, let's review the regulations that relate specifically to your export duties. There are a number of regulations that relate to export certification. We will highlight a few of the most significant ones. First let's review the regulations that cover products from livestock. 9 CFR 322.1 covers marking products for export. When you spend time in the plant with your mentor, you will see that there is a special stamp used for products that will be exported. 9 CFR 322.2 has some general instructions about issuing export certificates. Note that a certificate is required before products leave the official establishment. The certification shows that the product has been inspected and passed, and is not adulterated or misbranded. 9 CFR 322.3 states that establishments must apply for this service. 9 CFR 322.4 states that vessels or carriers destined to a foreign country cannot receive or transport edible products unless or until an official export certificate has been issued. The only exception for this is inspected and passed ship stores of less than 50 pounds that are not for sale.

Poultry regulations:

- 9 CFR 381.104 – official marks
- 9 CFR 381.105 – certification process
- 9 CFR 381.106 – certificate form
- 9 CFR 381.107 – country requirements

9 CFR 381.104 through 109 cover the export requirements related to poultry products. We'll just highlight the requirements in 381.104 through 107. 9 CFR 381.104 shows the official mark of inspection used for poultry products that have been inspected and passed and will be exported. 9 CFR 381.105 explains the process of export certification. Just as was true for establishments under the livestock regulations, establishments that produce poultry products for export must apply for this service. 9 CFR 381.106 covers the specific form that is used for export certification. 9 CFR 381.107 explains that the exporter is responsible for providing any unofficial documentation that is needed by the foreign country where the product will be shipped. It indicates that these certificates may cover articles that are exempted from the definition of poultry product, for example chicken paws, if they are inspected and certified.

Directives and Notices:

FSIS Directive 9000.1 – Export certification
FSIS Form 9060-6
FSIS Directive 9010.1
FSIS Directive 9040.1
FSIS Notice 21-04

Now, let's look at an overview of the specific instructions that are outlined in FSIS Directives regarding your responsibilities for export certification. FSIS Directive 9000.1 covers the basics related to export certification. In a few moments, we will review the information contained in this directive in detail, as you will use it to guide your activities related to export certification. You will also need to be familiar with FSIS Form 9060-6. It's an attachment to Directive 9000.1. It is the form that you will use in the process of certifying product for export. FSIS Directive 9010.1 covers export product that is returned to the U.S. It might be refused by the foreign government, rejected by the buyer, or returned for a number of other reasons. Regardless of the reason, if product of this type is returned to an establishment in your assignment, you may be asked by the District Office to verify that the product is not adulterated or misbranded. FSIS Directive 9040.1 provides instructions for performing a sensory evaluation to determine the eligibility of the product for export. The purpose of this inspection is to determine if the product has become adulterated or unwholesome.

EXPORT CERTIFICATION

Let's review the instructions in FSIS Directive 9000.1, "Export Certification." This Directive explains that FSIS Form 9060-6, "Application for Export Certificate," is completed by the establishment and the provided to you. You are to review the application to verify that the requirements of the receiving country have been met. Remember that you can find these country requirements on the FSIS web site under the key word "export library." You need to check these requirements regularly, because they are subject to frequent changes.

You are also to perform a sensory evaluation to determine if the product is eligible for export. To be eligible for export, like product that is produced in federally inspected establishments in the U.S. for human consumption, it must be wholesome and not adulterated to be passed for human food. Be particularly alert for signs that the product is or may have become adulterated or unwholesome. Some of these signs include off-condition odor, and torn, damp cartons or other evidence of improper handling or storage. The specific directions for your sensory evaluation are covered in FSIS Directive 9040.1, Rev. 2. We'll cover that in a few minutes.

You must also verify that the foreign language sticker, if it is required, shows no wording other than that which has been approved for the official label.

Once you have completed these steps, you sign the export certificate and issue the number. Then you stamp the product. There are many ways in which the product may be stamped. You will learn more about the specifics of stamping product when you spend time in the plant with your veterinary mentor. You must retain a copy of the application and any documents that are needed for filing. Examples of these documents are ones required by the country in addition to the export certificate. Then, you return the originals to the applicant.

Under some conditions, pre-stamping of product is allowed. Pre-stamping is when the establishment stamps the boxes and completes the export certificate when you are not present. Here's what has to be done for this to be permitted. First, make sure the establishment has

identified an employee who is responsible for the custody of the stamp and the certificate. Then, make sure the establishment has procedures to make sure the stamp will be applied in a clear and legible fashion only on boxes that are in sound condition. Remember that boxes that are torn or damp may indicate that product is not wholesome. Then, make sure the establishment is aware that the stamp must be returned once they complete stamping the product. If at any time you feel it is necessary, you can reinspect the product that was pre-stamped.

Here are the things that you must do before you sign the export certificate. First, make sure the information on the certificate is the same as the information on the application. If you have any questions or concerns about what you see, contact the inspection employee who signed the application or the exporter. Make sure the certificate is accurate and does not have items crossed out or corrected. If there are minor erasures or alterations and the foreign country accepts these on the certificate, initial them to indicate the certificate as corrected is accurate. If there are continuation sheets used, make sure they comply with the requirements in Directive 9000.1. Before you sign the certificate, make sure all requirements are met. If they have been met, sign all the required forms – original certificate, supplemental certifications, special statements, continuation sheets – in other than black ink. Remember that you do not stamp the certificate, and you do not crimp it with the raised seal. Make sure you retain a copy of the export certificate and all accompanying documents for the government file. Return the original to the applicant.

REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATES

Now, let's cover replacement certificates. What is a replacement certificate? It's a recertification of the product's condition at the time of initial export. It does not represent that lot's current condition.

Here are some examples of when a replacement certificate is to be issued:

1. Original certificate did not carry required information.
2. Original certificate carried incorrect information.
3. Name of the consignee or exporter has changed.
4. Certificate was lost.

Replacement certificates must have the same date as was on the original certificate. A request to increase box count or total net weight should not be done unless product is reinspected. An "in lieu of" application (FSIS Form 9060-6) must be submitted to request a new certificate, and when possible be accompanied by the original certificate and all copies of the original certificate.

Multiple certificates may be used to replace an original if the exported product has been subdivided for shipping to more than one consignee if there is a direct correlation between the containers, identification, and weights between the original and replacement certificate, and the original is returned for cancellation.

Before issuing an "in lieu of" certificate:

1. Verify the "in lieu of" statement and certificate numbers are on the new certificate.
2. Obtain the superseded certificate (if possible) and (a) verify it contains a "superseded" statement, and (b) attach it to the inspector's copy of the replacement certificate and file it in the government office.

REINSPECTION FOR EXPORT

Now that you have a good understanding of your duties for export certification, let's go back and

talk about the inspection procedures you will use. These are called reinspection procedures, because the product has been through and passed federal inspection at the time you are certifying it for export. These procedures are covered in FSIS Directive 9040.1, Revision 2. Remember that the exporter must agree prior to the certification that the product intended for export must be subject to reinspection. Remember that the applicant completes form 9060-6, "Application for Export." The applicant also arranges for you to reinspect the lot. The lot must represent only one type of product and it must originate from one establishment. But, it may consist of different sizes of the same item.

Here are the inspection procedures for products that are fresh. This includes products that are frozen or unfrozen.

- Organoleptically examine shipping cartons in the lot for signs of poor handling and storage (e.g., torn, damp, damaged cartons; off-condition odor).
- If the lot does NOT show signs of poor product handling and storage, stamp shipping cartons with the export mark and issue FSIS Form 9060-5, Export Certificate of Wholesomeness.
- If the lot DOES show signs of poor product handling and storage:
 - Open a maximum of 10 affected shipping cartons;
 - If frozen, temper or thaw all individual packages in the carton; and
 - Check product for soundness and wholesomeness.
 - Then, if the product is found to be sound and wholesome, allow the establishment to repackage the affected cartons at the packer's option. This is done under FSIS's Voluntary Identification Service at the packer's cost. Stamp cartons with export mark.
- If the lot is NOT sound or wholesome retain the lot and notify your supervisor.

Here are the inspection procedures for canned product:

1. Visually examine all shipping cartons in the lot for signs of poor product handling and storage (e.g., torn, damp, damaged shipping cartons/immediate containers).
2. If the lot does NOT show signs of poor product handling and storage, stamp the shipping cartons with the export mark and issue FSIS Form 9060-5.
3. If the lot DOES show signs of poor product handling and storage, perform a condition of container examination in accordance with FSIS Directive 7520.2, Amendment 1, as directed by your supervisor.

If you have technical questions, contact the FSIS Technical Service Center – 1-800-233-3935.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC**

FSIS DIRECTIVE

9000.1

9/9/1999

EXPORT CERTIFICATION

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this directive is to clarify current Agency policy regarding the export certification process. The export certification process serves to instill confidence in U.S. meat and poultry products throughout the world; therefore, FSIS must continue to ensure a high level of integrity, security and accuracy within the process. Several directives have been combined to develop a clear set of standards for District Offices (DO) and inspection program employees to follow. This directive transmits a revised application for export (FSIS Form 9060-6 dated 9/1/1999), Attachment 1. FSIS Form 9060-6, dated 3/96 is now obsolete. Attachment 2 is a set of frequently asked questions.

II. CANCELLATION

FSIS Directives 9020.1, 9060.4, and 9080.1

Any Regional Notices or other written instructions related to export certification or reinspection of product intended for export

III. [RESERVED]

IV. REFERENCES

9 CFR 156, 307.4(c), 312.8, 316.5, 317.1, 317.7, 318.2, 322.1, 322.2, 322.4, 325.8, 325.13, 350, 351, 354, 355, 362, 381.37(c), 381.66, 381.104, 381.105-107, 381.128, 381.193
FSIS Directives 5110.1 revision 1, 9040.1 revision 2

V. BACKGROUND

A. As specified in FSIS regulations, upon application by an exporter, an FSIS inspection program employee is authorized to issue official export certificates for the shipment of inspected and passed products to any foreign country. The exporter provides a completed FSIS Form 9060-6 (Application for Export Certificate) to an inspection program employee. Upon receiving the application and before signing it, the inspection program employee verifies that the information on the application is accurate and re-inspects the product as described in paragraph VII. C. of this directive. The inspection program employee should request from the exporter any

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Offices**

OPI: OPPDE

documentation needed. After the inspection program employee is assured that the information on the application is correct, the country requirements have been met, and there is no reason to conclude that the product has become adulterated or unwholesome, he or she signs the application and issues, but does not sign, an export certificate.

B. After receiving a completed export certificate from an exporter, an FSIS certifying official (inspection program employee that signs the certificate) verifies the information by comparing the information on the certificate to the information on the certified (signed) application. The statement on the export certificate is a certification that may be based on information provided to the certifying official, and he or she need not have been directly associated with the inspection of the product. If further clarification is needed, the certifying official will request additional information/documentation from the inspection program employee who signed the application or from the exporter. Once the certifying official is assured that all information is accurate, he or she is to sign the export certificate. If a certifying official refuses to sign a certificate, he or she should have good and sufficient reasons (e.g., the documents are incomplete, or he or she cannot verify, based on the information provided, that the product meets the export requirements).

VI. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. FSIS Library of Export Requirements (Export Library)

1. The Export Library contains country requirement information such as:
 - a. certificate requirements
 - b. eligible and ineligible products
 - c. facility requirements
 - d. labeling requirements
 - e. edible and inedible products
 - f. plant requirements to become eligible to export
 - g. VMO signature requirements
 - h. animal health requirements
 - i. list of plants eligible to export
 - j. export notices
2. Ways to access information from the Export Library:
 - a. on the internet at www.fsis.usda.gov/ofa/export/explib.htm
 - b. HP Desk
 - c. Outlook
 - d. Call the FSIS Technical Service Center (TSC) at 1-800-233-3935 or 402-221-7400
3. For information regarding animal health status and certification:
 - a. consult the Export Library
 - b. consult the TSC at the above numbers
 - c. after consulting the Export Library and the TSC, if specific questions remain regarding the status of a particular disease within a State, consult the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Area

Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) for that State. A list of AVIC's is included in the Meat and Poultry Inspection Directory.

B. Establishments exporting product are required to meet the regulatory requirements related to facilities and sanitation. An inspection program employee verifies that the inspection area does not pose the potential for the product to become adulterated (e.g., that the inspection area is free from pests, rodents, dirt, etc.). An inspection program employee also verifies that reinspection can be properly conducted in the inspection area (e.g., that there is adequate space, lighting, water supply, etc.).

VII. APPLICATION FOR EXPORT CERTIFICATE

A. Upon receiving an application for export, an inspection program employee reviews the application to verify that it is complete, and that all pertinent information is included.

B. An inspection program employee reviews the application to verify that the requirements of the receiving country have been met. The inspection program employee verifies statements on the application by requesting appropriate documentation from the applicant. The inspection program employee should inform the applicant that the process may be expedited if he or she provides the necessary documents along with the application.

C. An inspection program employee performs a sensory evaluation of the product to determine its eligibility for export. The inspection program employee should be particularly alert for signs that product is or may become adulterated or unwholesome (e.g. off-condition odor, torn damp cartons, or other evidence of improper handling or storage). See FSIS Directive 9040.1, Rev. 2, Re-inspection of Product Intended for Export.

D. An inspection program employee verifies that the foreign language sticker (if required) shows no wording other than that shown on the approved label. **Note:** The inspection program employee also verifies that any required letter of guarantee from the exporter supplying the foreign language sticker, which certifies that the sticker is an accurate translation of the wording on the approved label, is included.

E. After the inspection program employee completes A through D above, he or she signs the application, issues the export certificate and number, and permits the establishment to stamp product. **(Note:** An inspection program employee may allow an establishment to use a computer generated export stamp (sticker) as long as the establishment identifies the number of stickers produced before applying them to product and provides the inspection program employee with any unused stickers.)

F. The inspection program employee retains a copy of the application and any accompanying documents for filing and returns the originals to the applicant.

VIII. PRE-STAMPING OF PRODUCT

A. An inspection program employee may permit an establishment to stamp boxes and complete the export certificate when he or she is not present. Before doing this, however, the inspection program employee verifies that:

1. the establishment has identified an employee who will be responsible for the stamp and certificate,
2. the establishment has procedures to ensure the stamp will be applied in a clear and legible manner only to boxes that are in sound condition,
3. the establishment is aware that the stamp must be returned to an inspection program employee at the completion of stamping the product.

B. An inspection program employee performs re-inspection as specified in paragraph VII. C. at any time he or she determines that it is necessary.

C. An inspection program employee may allow an establishment to use a computer generated export stamp (sticker) for pre-stamping, as long as the establishment identifies the number of stickers produced before applying them to product and provides the inspection program employee with any unused stickers.

IX. EXPORT CERTIFICATES

A. The certifying official receives the appropriate completed export certificate and a copy of the certified application from the exporter. The certifying official verifies that the information on the certificate is the same as the information on the application. If the certifying official has concerns about the information on the application or the certificate, he or she contacts the inspection program employee who signed the application or the exporter to address any concerns.

B. Before signing the certificate, the certifying official:

1. Checks the certificate for accuracy and corrections.
2. Checks for attachments and lines-out any unused space.
3. Unless not acceptable to a foreign country, initials minor erasures or alterations (see Export Library to verify if receiving country permits erasures or alterations).

C. If needed, a continuation sheet is prepared by the exporter when multiple items in the shipment exceed the space available on the face of the certificate. The continuation sheet is to be prepared in quadruplicate and includes:

1. Date issued;
2. Title, e.g., Continuation Sheet for Export Certificate # _____;
3. Product description – name, boxes, weight, as indicated on the face of the certificate; and
4. The certifying official's name followed by the district number. The name and code number must be the same as that on the face of the certificate.

D. The certifying official signs the certificate only when assured that requirements of this directive are met. He or she signs the original certificate in the signature block in

other than black ink, exactly as typed or printed, and signs all supplemental certifications e.g., special statements required by a specific country, and all continuation sheets. Also, if the importing country requires a VMO's signature, the certifying official is to include his or her professional degree. The certifying official should not stamp the certificate with the export stamp or crimp it with the raised seal.

E. The certifying official retains a copy of the export certificate and any accompanying documents for filing and returns the original to the applicant.

X. REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATES

A. A certificate replacing an original certificate is a re-certification of the product's condition **at the time of the initial export certification**. A replacement certificate for a lot **does not** represent that lot's current condition. A replacement certificate may be issued in situations such as, but not limited to:

1. The original certificate did not carry required information.
2. The original certificate carried incorrect information.
3. The name of the consignee or exporter has changed.
4. The certificate has been lost.

B. The replacement certificate must be dated with the same date as that shown on the original certificate.

C. A request to increase the box count or the total net weight shall not be honored unless the product is re-inspected in accordance with paragraph VII. B. of this directive.

D. An "in lieu of" application (FSIS Form 9060-6) is submitted to request a new certificate and must be accompanied by (if possible) the original and all copies of the original certificate. Exception: In the case of lost certificates, the exporter should provide a letter of assurance to the certifying official stating the certificate will be returned if found. The inspection program employee notifies the TSC if the original certificate can not be found.

E. Multiple export certificates may be issued to replace an original if the exported product has been subdivided for shipping to more than one consignee, and an export certificate is required for each part, provided that:

1. The lot was originally manifested in sufficient detail to enable the direct correlation of containers, identification, and corresponding weights on the new certificate.
2. The original certificate is returned for cancellation.

F. Before issuing an "in lieu of" certificate, an inspection program employee:

1. Verifies that the following statement is in the top left margin or in the remarks block of the new certificate: "Issued in lieu of certificate no. _____. The export mark on the product covered by this certificate shows certificate no. _____."

2. Obtains the superseded certificate (if possible), and:

(a) verifies that it is marked in the left margin or in the “Remarks” block with the number of the certificate which supersedes it, e.g., “Superseded by No. _____,” and

(b) attaches it to the “inspector’s” copy of the replacement certificate and files it in the government office.

XI. USDA/FSIS LETTERHEAD CERTIFICATION

USDA/FSIS letterhead certifications are issued for certain products when specified in the individual country requirements found in the Export Library. These certifications are prepared in quadruplicate and must include:

- A. Date issued
- B. Corresponding certificate number
- C. Establishment/plant number
- D. Name and address of consignor
- E. Name and address of consignee
- F. Certification statement e.g., I (name of inspector/veterinarian) certify...
- G. Number of packages
- H. Net Weight
- I. Product description
- J. Shipping marks
- K. Inspector/veterinarian name typed/printed, followed by professional degree, if applicable, and the District number
- L. Signature of inspector/veterinarian exactly as typed/printed

XII. INVENTORY

A. Official export stamps must be controlled at all times. Export certificates, stamps, and pertinent inventory records must be maintained under official lock or seal when not in use. The following forms are considered to be accountable:

- 1. MP-415-4 , Animal Casings Export Certificate
- 2. FSIS Form 9060-5, Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness
- 3. FSIS-9060-7, Animal Casings Export Certificate for Countries Requiring Ante-Mortem, Post-Mortem and Fit for Human Food Statement
- 4. FSIS 9060-9, Inedible Product Export Certificate
- 5. FSIS-9060-10, Horse Meat or Horse Product Export Certificate
- 6. FSIS-9060-17, Animal Casings Export Certificate for Countries Requiring Ante-Mortem, Post-Mortem and Fit for Human Food Statement (For Casings Processed in Mexico)
- 7. FSIS-9060-18, Animal Casings Export Certificate for Countries Requiring Ante-Mortem, Post-Mortem and Sound and Clean Statement
- 8. FSIS 9135-3, Certificate for Export of Meat and Poultry (Canada)

B. The inspection program employee at each establishment must maintain an accurate inventory record of export certificates issued, and voided certificates.

/s/ Philip S. Derfler

Deputy Administrator
Office of Policy, Program Development
and Evaluation

Last Update: April 9, 2004

Library of Export Requirements

Export Alert

(updated March 24, 2004)

Due to the diagnosis of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in a Holstein cow in the state of Washington, all beef meat (and other ruminant and ruminant products) intended for export may be subject to restrictions applied by importing countries. These restrictions are listed in the export library under the individual country requirements.

With the exception of "replacement" or "in-lieu-of" certificates issued prior to December 24, 2003, export certificates stating that beef meat products are certified as free of BSE cannot be signed by FSIS inspectors until further notice.

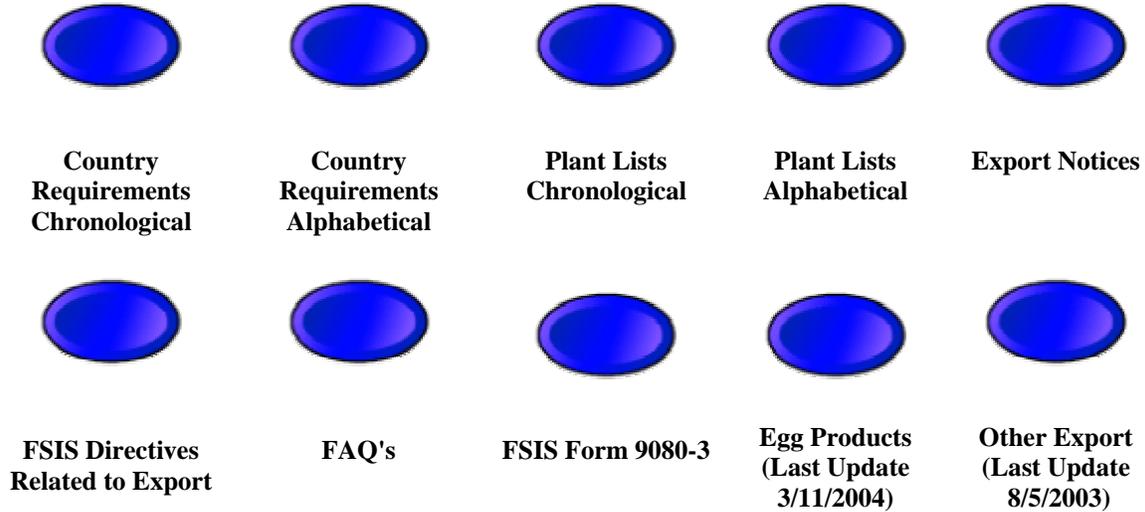
FSIS has not changed its policy regarding "returned product" as outlined in [FSIS Directive 9010.1](#); however, APHIS has imposed several additional restrictions which can be found on the [APHIS](#) website.

Import restrictions do not apply to shipments of products destined for military installations, and export certificates for such shipments should include the following statement in the "Remarks" section: "This product is destined for a U.S. military installation." At this time, these restrictions do not apply to ship stores, and export certificates for such shipments should include the following statement in the "Remarks" section: "This product is destined for ship stores."

Due to the identification of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a commercial flock in Texas, poultry and poultry products for export may be subject to restrictions applied by importing countries. Import restrictions on poultry due to concerns regarding HPAI do not apply to shipments of products destined for military installations, and export certificates for such shipments should include the following statement in the "Remarks" section: "This product is destined for a U.S. military installation." At this time, these restrictions do not apply to ship stores, and export certificates for such shipments should include the following statement in the "Remarks" section: "This product is destined for ship stores."

Additional announcements and/or changes in restrictions may be expected from importing countries regarding the eligibility of U.S. products as the situation continues to develop. New requirements will be posted to the export library as they are received.

U.S. exporters are strongly encouraged to verify with the importing country the eligibility of ruminants and ruminant products and poultry and poultry products prior to shipping.



How to use the Export Library

Library Content - The **FSIS Export Library** presents information on foreign country export requirements for meat and poultry products. Contact the **FSIS Technical Service Center** at (402) 221-7400 if there are questions regarding the subject matter content of the Export Library or send e-mail to tech.center@usda.gov. The types of documents found in the Export Library are as follows:

- **Export Notices** - These documents are intended to be a rapid method of dissemination of new and urgent export information. Such information is eventually incorporated into the Country Requirements. Export Notices are distributed from the Office of Field Operations through the FSIS District Offices as hard copy memoranda to all field personnel involved in export of meat and poultry products. Jump to [Export Notices](#).
- **Country Requirements** - These files contain information obtained by FSIS through direct, government to government communication with country officials. Country Requirements are generally organized under the following headings: PRODUCT ELIGIBILITY, LABELING, PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS, DOCUMENTATION, OTHER REQUIREMENTS, AND PLANT ELIGIBILITY.

If a **country is not found** among "EXPORT REQUIREMENTS" files, it should be assumed that nothing is known about the country's export requirements (including plant eligibility). FSIS form 9060-5 can normally be issued, but no statements can be made in the "Remarks" section. Exporters are advised to check for other restrictions, i.e. Economic Sanctions (see the [U.S. Treasury](#) web site) and are advised to proceed with caution.

Some **Country Requirements are updated frequently** - if printed out make sure you have the latest revisions (Country Requirement files are dated at top and bottom of file.).

Searching within Country files may be facilitated by looking for the paragraphs followed by an asterisk * (Hint, use the browser "Find" feature to search for * to find the changes quickly).

Jump to [Latest Changes](#) in Country Requirements. Jump to [Alphabetical Listing](#) of Country Requirements.

- **Plant Lists** - Some countries (including European Union) require U.S. Establishments to be approved, registered, and/or reviewed prior to export. All applications for plant approval must be submitted to the FSIS Technical Service Center (Fax 402-221-7479) on FSIS Form 9080-3. When approved, establishments are added to plant lists maintained by the TSC. Some of these lists change frequently as a result of plant additions and delistments.

If a country is not found in the alphabetical listing, this usually means that all Federally inspected plants are eligible to export to that country. Exporters are advised to consult the country's requirements to confirm eligibility. Jump to [Latest Changes](#) in Plant Lists. Jump to [Alphabetical Listing](#) of Plant Lists by country.

- **Other Documents - FSIS Export Directives** contain policy and procedures related to the export certification process and the handling of exported products returned to the U.S.

Export Q&As may also be of assistance in providing solutions and clarifications in export matters.

Other Export contains information that may be of general export interest, temporary in nature, or applicable to multiple countries.

Jump to [FSIS Directives Related to Meat and Poultry Exports](#). Jump to [Meat and Poultry Export Q&A's](#) Jump to [Other Export](#)

Format - Library users have a choice to view and print Country Requirements in text (**txt**) format or Adobe™ **pdf** format. **Text** files, which are HTML files, contain identical information as **pdf** files. Adobe pdf format is better for printing since it preserves the original spacing. Certain letterhead forms now linked to some of the Country Requirements must be viewed and printed in pdf format. If not already installed on your computer you may wish to download [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).

Country Requirements Changed in the Last Calendar Year in Chronological Order (See [ALPHABETICAL LISTING](#) for all country requirements.)

09 April 2004 Barbados [txt](#) [pdf](#)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE 21-04

3/31/04

DISTRIBUTION:

Inspection Offices;
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IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

I. PURPOSE

This notice provides verification, documentation, and enforcement instructions to inspection program personnel with assignments that include providing identification services.

II. REGULATION

9 CFR 350.3(a) states: *Identification Service. (1) meat or other product that is federally inspected and passed at an official establishment, or upon importation, under the meat inspection laws, is officially marked to identify it as federally inspected and passed. In order to facilitate the division of such meat or other product into smaller portions or its combination into larger units and still maintain its identity as product which has been federally inspected and passed and so marked, inspectors may supervise the handling of the product and mark such portions or units with the marks of Federal inspection when they determine that the identity has been maintained.*

Under 9 CFR 350.3(b), premises at which identification service is available cannot be official establishments. Thus, they are not subject to 9 CFR Part 417 and are not required to develop and implement HACCP plans to cover the operations conducted at the premises.

III. INSPECTION PROGRAM PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receipt of this notice, inspection program personnel should update the Plant Profiles by eliminating the Sanitation SOP procedures (01B01, 01B02, 01C01, 01C02). Since the facilities where identification services are provided are not official establishments, they do not have to develop and implement written Sanitation SOPs (9 CFR 416.11 – 416.17). However, sanitation is an important factor in promoting public health, and these facilities are required to meet the sanitation performance standards (9 CFR 416.1 to 416.6), including protecting product from insanitary conditions during handling, storage, loading, and unloading (9 CFR 416.4(d)). FSIS should not provide

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identification services to those facilities that do not meet the requirements of the sanitation performance standards. Inspection program personnel should document any failure to meet the requirements of these regulations on a Noncompliance Record (NR) as described in FSIS Directive 5000.1, Revision 1, Chapter IV. Proper documentation is the basis for administrative enforcement actions and 9 CFR 350.6 states that when the Administrator determines that the public interest so requires, he may deny or withdraw service provided for in this part, without a hearing, pending final determination of the matter. If adulterated product is found in one of these facilities, inspection program personnel should contact the District Office for further instructions to ensure that adulterated product does not enter commerce, e.g., detention of the product. The Rules of Practice described in 9 CFR Part 500 that are applicable to federally inspected establishments do not apply to these facilities because they are not official establishments. However, the rules of practice of the Department of Agriculture in subpart H of part I, subtitle A, title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, are the rules of practice applicable to adjudicatory, administrative proceedings under 9 CFR part 350. The identification services described in 9 CFR 350.3(a)(1) through (4) are reimbursable to FSIS. This means that the Agency should be reimbursed for cost of the service any time it is performed. These services are reimbursable even though the services are performed within inspection personnel's regular tour of duty. The applicant should be billed for all inspection time used to inspect product and for travel time as appropriate. When identification services are provided to a facility, inspection personnel should record the time involved on the Time and Attendance Record (FSIS Form 3530-4) and on the Services Rendered form (FSIS Form 5110-1). The appropriate management code information can be obtained through the District Office.

/s/ Philip S. Derfler

Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development