



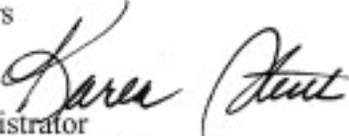
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

OCT 19 2005

To: District Managers

From: Karen Stuck 
Assistant Administrator
Office of International Affairs

Subject: Export Notice 2005-4, Export Certification of Beef and Beef Products and Other Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products

With the finding of BSE in the United States, FSIS implemented controls and procedures that assure that the U.S. beef supply is safe. However, some importing countries continue to impose varying degrees of restriction on U.S. beef products. Negotiations have resulted in export certification requirements for these products that have become increasingly complex—and promise to become more complex as additional markets open. Regardless of their complexity and basis, the requirements of the importing country must be respected.

FSIS must ensure a high level of accuracy in the export certification process to maintain confidence in FSIS food safety activities and U.S. meat, poultry, and processed egg products. The export information on the FSIS website (http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/export_information/index.asp) has the most current information regarding product eligibility and certification requirements. This information should be used to assure that only eligible products are certified for export and, if the product is eligible, that the issued certification is current and correct. In addition, questions regarding export certification can be directed to the Technical Service Center at 1-800-233-3935.

Please ensure that plant management receives a copy of this notice.