

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

FSIS NOTICE

49-19

12/4/19

ELIGIBILITY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC) TO EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM BIRDS SLAUGHTERED IN CHINA

I. PURPOSE

This notice provides instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP) at official import inspection establishments on actions to take when verifying the accuracy of inspection certificates for poultry products imported from the People's Republic of China (PRC). These certificates, provided by the General Administration of China Customs, the PRC's central competent authority in charge of food inspection, assure that these products meet FSIS requirements.

II. BACKGROUND

On November 8, 2019, FSIS issued in the Federal Register the final rule, *Eligibility of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to Export to the United States Poultry Products from Birds Slaughtered in the PRC* ([84 FR 60318](#)). The final rule announced that the PRC's poultry slaughter inspection system is equivalent to FSIS's food safety inspection system. Effective December 8, 2019, the PRC is eligible to export to the United States poultry products from birds slaughtered on or after December 8, 2019¹ in the PRC.

III. IPP RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. IPP are to follow the instructions in [FSIS Directive 9900.1](#), *Imported Product Shipment Presentation*, and are to verify the slaughter dates on the inspection certificate are on or after December 8, 2019.
- B. When the inspection certificate does not contain certification of the slaughter dates, or the products are certified as slaughtered before December 8, 2019, IPP are to fail the Certification Type of Inspection (TOI) in PHIS. This will initiate a refused entry in PHIS. IPP are to refer to [FSIS Directive 9900.8](#), *Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products Refused Entry into the United States* for disposition.
- C. Poultry products derived from birds slaughtered in the PRC certified as slaughtered before December 8, 2019 are not eligible for entry into the U.S.

¹ The FSIS final rule announcing the equivalence of PRC's poultry slaughter inspection system published on November 8, 2019, with a 30-day effective date, meaning it will be effective on December 8, 2019. That date is a Sunday and, owing to internal procedures, the Office of the *Federal Register* listed the effective date in the published final rule as the following weekday, Monday, December 9, 2019. Nonetheless, IPP are to consider poultry slaughtered on or after December 8, 2019, as eligible for import into the United States.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic

NOTICE EXPIRES: 12/1/20

OPI: OPPD

IV. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Import Export Policy Development Staff (IEPDS) through [askFSIS](#). When submitting a question, use the Submit a Question tab and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 49-19**.
Question Field: Enter your question with as much detail as possible.
Product Field: Select **Import** from the drop-down menu.
Category Field: Select **Public Health Information System** from the drop-down menu.
Policy Arena: Select **International (Import/Export)** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question**.

NOTE: Refer to [FSIS Directive 5620.1](#), *Using askFSIS*, for additional information on submitting questions.



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