

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution
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Report Name: Beef Rules of Origin Self-Attestation

Country: Morocco

Post: Rabat

Report Category: Agricultural Trade Office Activities, FAIRS Export Certificate Report, FAIRS Annual Country Report, FAIRS Subject Report, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification, Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative, Livestock and Products, Country/Regional FTA's, Trade Policy Incident Report, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications

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Report Highlights:

On January 28, 2021, Morocco's Administration des Douanes et Impots Indirects (Moroccan Customs) requested additional documentation for U.S. exports of beef and beef products. The documentation is to satisfy concerns that U.S. beef and beef products meet the terms specified in the Rules of Origin Chapter of the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement as applied by Moroccan Customs. The following report contains instructions for exporters to facilitate trade in U.S. beef and beef products.

General Information

On January 28, 2021, Morocco's Administration des Douanes et Impots Indirects (Moroccan Customs) requested that U.S. exporters provide additional attestations that U.S. exports beef and beef products meet the value requirement in the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Article 5.1 (b) (ii) Rules of Origin chapter, in order to benefit from the FTA's preferential tariffs.

According to Article 5.1 (b):

“for goods other than those covered by the rules in Annex 4-A or Annex 5-A , the good is a new or different article of commerce that has been grown, produced, or manufactured in the territory of one or both of the Parties; and the sum of (i) the value of materials produced in the territory of one or both of the Parties, plus (ii) the direct costs of processing operations performed in the territory of one or both of the Parties is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of the good at the time it is imported into the territory of a Party.”

In light of the 2018 opening of the Morocco market to U.S. beef and beef products through the negotiated export certificate which allows U.S. beef production from legally imported cattle, Moroccan Customs requested that the exporter demonstrate that the direct cost of processing operations is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of the exported beef and beef products. Moroccan Customs agrees that sufficient proof will be provided by an exporter self-attestation containing the following two statements:

- 1) The bovine meat or bovine meat-based products were produced from cattle that were slaughtered and processed in the United States.

and/or

- 2) The direct costs of processing operations performed in the United States in the transformation of any imported cattle to bovine meat or bovine meat-based products is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of the products exported to Morocco.”

Specific Information to U.S. Beef Exporters

Henceforth, U.S. exports of U.S. beef and beef products to Morocco are to be accompanied by an exporter self-attestation containing these two statements to facilitate the consignment's qualification for the preferential duty under the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement. The information may be provided using the following “Certificate of Origin” format. U.S. beef exporters should work closely with the U.S. Meat Export Federation and/or their importers to ensure documentation related to the Rules of Origin attestations is in order.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Date.....: February 4, 2021

Exporter.....: Name and Address

Consignee.....: Name and Address

Export Certificate Number:

SHIPPING MARK	BOXES	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTS

The Undersigned (Exporter Name),
Declares that the merchandise shipped under Invoice#.....
are the product of the United States of America and:

- The bovine meat or bovine meat-based products were produced from cattle that were slaughtered and processed in the United States.
- and/or
- The direct costs of processing operations performed in the United States in the transformation of any imported cattle to bovine meat or bovine meat-based products is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of the products exported to Morocco.”

EXPORTER SIGNATURE:

SWORN TO BEFORE ME: Date.....

STAMP(S) & SIGNATURE(S)

Attachments:

No Attachments.