

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Canada Updates to Import Requirements for US Natural Casings

Country: Canada

Post: Ottawa

Report Category: Livestock and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) have negotiated new conditions for the importation of U.S. natural casings from the United States to Canada. CFIA will provide a one-month transition period, ending May 15, 2025, during which imports will be approved by CFIA according to both the new and previous import requirements. After May 15, 2025, all U.S. natural casings exported to Canada will no longer require a letter of guarantee but must be processed in a U.S. establishment under the approved Agricultural Marketing Service Export Verification (AMS EV) Program for Canada with final processing in a CFIA approved FSIS establishment. The export certificate will be signed by a FSIS veterinarian.

On April 14, 2025, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) published [details](#) of the negotiation of new import requirements for U.S. natural casings to Canada. CFIA is providing a one-month transition period where imports will be accepted with either the previous or new import requirements. The new import requirements will be fully implemented on May 15, 2025.

Under these new import requirements, Canada will continue to accept natural casings derived from approved species slaughtered in the United States. For bovine and porcine casings, casings from animals slaughtered in approved U.S. facilities can continue to be processed in China if processed in Chinese facilities which have CFIA [approval](#). However, a final processing step, such as salting/brining, must occur in a FSIS approved facility prior to export to Canada. This new processing step and certification of exports will occur under an approved Agricultural Marketing Service Export Verification (AMS EV) [Program](#) for Canada.

Canada will only permit U.S. natural casing imports from facilities approved under the AMS EV program and shipments will be certified with a CFIA approved export certificate signed by a FSIS veterinarian.

Attachments:

No Attachments.