

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: January 28,2020

Report Number: RS2020-0002

Report Name: Draft Amendments to Phytosanitary Lab Procedure Notified to WTO

Country: Russian Federation

Post: Moscow

Report Category: WTO Notifications, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On January 8, 2020, Russia notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of draft amendments to the Laboratory Procedure for Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures via G/SPS/N/RUS/173. The proposed measure clarifies the term “sample” and adds provisions on the storage and return of samples to the owner. The public comment period for the draft will close on February 23, 2020. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA’s enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by February 13, 2020. This report contains an unofficial translation of the proposed measure.

General Information

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which is the regulatory body of the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia Eurasian Economic Union¹ (EAEU), published the following draft document on its website:

- [On Amending the Laboratory Procedure for Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures](#)

On January 8, 2020, Russia notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of the draft document via [G/SPS/N/RUS/173](#). The public comment period for the draft will close on February 23, 2020.

Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by February 13, 2020.

The proposed measure clarifies the term “sample” and adds provisions on the storage and return of samples to the owner. An unofficial English translation of the proposed amendments can be found below. The current text of the Procedure is available here [in Russian](#) and [translated into English](#) via automated translation.

¹ For details, please see 2016 GAIN report *Eurasian Economic Union One Year On* at <https://gain.fas.usda.gov>.

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:

**EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION
COLLEGIUM
DECISION**

_____ 20____ No. _____ city

On Amending the Laboratory Procedure for Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures

In accordance with paragraph 24 of the Protocol on the Application of Sanitary, Veterinary and Sanitary, and Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures (Annex No. 12 to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union of May 29, 2014) and paragraph 18 of Annex No. 2 to the Rules of Procedure of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved by Decision of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council No. 98 of December 23, 2014, the Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Commission **has resolved:**

1. To amend the Laboratory Procedure for Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures approved by Decision of the Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Union No. 41 of May 10, 2016 as follows:

a) Item 3 shall be supplemented with following paragraph “sample (specimen)” - the amount of regulated products selected from a batch of regulated products for quarantine phytosanitary examination, parts of regulated material infested and damaged by pests and diseases, specimen and preparations of quarantine objects, microscope slides of pathogens.

b) Item 13 shall be amended as follows:

“13. Samples (specimen) of fresh fruit, vegetables, berries, mushrooms, green crops, cut flowers, fresh branches and other parts of plants for decorative purposes, in which no quarantine objects were detected, are stored in the quarantine phytosanitary (test) laboratory until all necessary examinations are completed and a quarantine phytosanitary expert conclusion is issued.

13¹. Samples (specimen) of seed and planting material of plants, in which quarantine objects were not detected, after the completion of the quarantine phytosanitary examination are not subject to storage and can be returned to the owner in cases where they are of scientific or economic value.

13². Samples (specimen), which are specimen and preparations of quarantine objects, microscope slides of pathogens and parts of plants infested (damaged) by quarantine objects, are stored in a quarantine phytosanitary (test) laboratory or in another place in accordance with the legislation of the Member State subject to the conditions specified in paragraph 12 of this Procedure, until the expiration date of the regulated products, but not less than 3 months after the completion of the quarantine phytosanitary examination. In the event that a sample of a quarantine object or regulated non-quarantine pest is of scientific value or its storage as reference or collection material is necessary, it is possible to store it in accordance with the legislation of a Member State or transfer to expert organizations under conditions that exclude the possibility of its distribution.”

2. The present Decision shall come into effect after 30 calendar days from its official publication.

Chairman of the Collegium
Of the Eurasian Economic Commission

T. Sargsyan

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Attachments:

No Attachments.