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Report Highlights:

This report outlines the Bangladesh government's required documents to facilitate the importation of U.S. food and agricultural products. Post has not made substantive changes to the report for 2023.

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Disclaimer

“This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Dhaka, Bangladesh, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY’S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.”

Executive Summary

This report was prepared by the Foreign Agricultural Service in Bangladesh for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products. This report gives an overview of Bangladesh's certificate requirements for food and agricultural products. While this report strives to be as comprehensive as possible, regulations and requirements can frequently change. FAS/Dhaka suggests that stakeholders closely monitor the regulating agencies' official websites for policy updates that may impact their operations. Post will provide timely reports on revised and newly issued regulations with potential significant impacts on trade. U.S. exporters are encouraged to work closely with their Bangladesh importers to ensure they are aware of and complying with all current Bangladesh regulations and requirements.

The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority is the national authority responsible for ensuring food safety and overseeing food safety regulations in the country. Bangladesh is a signatory member of the World Trade Organization and maintains a relatively liberal and open trading system. The Import Policy Order 2021-2024 (Bangla) outlines trading regulations. Bangladesh requires U.S. government-issued sanitary and phytosanitary certificates, country of origin certificates, health certificates (fit for human consumption), and radiation certificates for many products including all plant products, fisheries and livestock products, meat, poultry, dairy, and fresh fruit, as well as livestock feed and ingredients, and processed food products. Original certificates, along with a letter of credit are required.

SECTION I. LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT (MATRIX):

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
All agricultural, processed food products (plant and plant products, poultry, fish and fish products, milk and milk products, meat and meat products, eggs, fish feed, poultry feed, poultry meal, fish meal, feed industry raw materials derived from livestock and fisheries products)	Certificate of “Country of Origin”	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificate stating products are manufactured in the United States. Attested by the competent authority or association related to the product.	To authenticate the country of origin of the products being imported to Bangladesh.	Customs House Chittagong; National Board of Revenue
	Radiation level test certificate No specific title. Example: Certificate of Analysis	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificate of radioactivity-test must indicate the level of CS-137 found in each kilogram of goods shipped. The competent authority of the exporting country (competent laboratory).	To authenticate that the food has permissible levels of radiation to be consumed	Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission; Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Commerce
	Health certificate	Requires a specific declaration	Food safety, quality, and	Customs House Chittagong;

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
		<p>(attestation) but there is no specific negotiated format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate stating <i>“Fit for human consumption”</i></p> <p><i>“Fit for consumption by fish, poultry or animal”</i>.</p> <p>Provided by the competent laboratory of exporting country.</p>	public health and animal health and veterinary oversight.	National Board of Revenue
Poultry feed, Fish feed, and animal feed ingredients (Animal product)	No specific title See Note - 1	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificates indicating feed goods are free from proximate composition, Chloromphenicol, Nitrofuram, Tetracycline, dyes, Antibiotics, Melamine and Genetically Modified Organism.</p> <p>(Note - 1: Conditions may change, please follow the conditions written in No Objection Certificate)</p>	Animal health and veterinary oversight	Department of Livestock Services and Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Fish meal, Poultry Meal,	No specific title	There is no specific negotiated	Animal health and public	Department of Livestock

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
and protein	See Note - 1	<p>declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate indicating that the imported goods are free from harmful chromium, by-products of tanneries and melamine and free from swine product (example: Porcine Plasma).</p> <p>The competent authority of the exporting country. The competent authority of importing country may conduct testing for confirmation.</p> <p>(Note: Conditions may change, please follow the conditions written in No Objection Certificate)</p>	health.	Services and Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Poultry feed and animal feed ingredients (Plant products)	<p>Phytosanitary Certificate</p> <p>PPQ Form 577 of APHIS</p>	There is no negotiated declaration (attestation) requirements as per the Import Policy Order 2015-18. But importers submit the phytosanitary certificate following the conditions written in import permit.	Plant health and animal health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture.
Chicks (day	Veterinary Health	Generic declaration	Animal health	Department of

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
old chicks)	<p>Certificate</p> <p>Title: Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export</p> <p>VS FORM 17-6 of APHIS</p>	<p>(attestation) and format of the APHIS certificate.</p> <p>A certificate confirms that the importable chicks are free from contagious disease (e.g., avian influenza).</p> <p>The authorized officer of the Livestock Department of the exporting country.</p>		Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Poultry and birds	Health Certificate	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate to the effect that poultry and birds are free from contagious disease (e.g., avian Influenza).</p> <p>Issued by the appropriate authority of the exporting countries.</p>	Animal health and food safety.	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Eggs of poultry and birds	<p>Health Certificate</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate to the</p>	Animal health.	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
		<p>effect that the goods are free from Avian Influenza or Bird Flu virus & harmful bacteria.</p> <p>The livestock department or competent authority of the exporting country.</p>		
Semen of oxen	<p>Health Certificate</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate regarding the variety of semen to the effect that it is free from any contagious and venereal diseases and the exporting country is also free from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).</p> <p>Competent authority of the exporting country.</p>	Animal health.	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
	<p>No specific title.</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate stating that the product is</p>	Food safety.	Bangladesh Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Food.

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Milk and milk product		<p>free from added melamine.</p> <p>Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.</p>		
	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificates stating that the cows from which the milk originates have not been given Estrogenic Hormones and Hormone growth promotants (HGPs) treatment.</p> <p>Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.</p>	Food safety.	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificates to the effect the existence of the level of heavy metal which are in accordance with Codex Standards.</p>	Food safety.	Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Ministry of Industries.

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
		Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.		
Fish	No specific title See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. A certificate to the effect that the fish is free from Formalin. Issued by the Government or any authority recognized by the Government of the exporting country.	Public health and food safety.	Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Beef, goat meat, or chicken or other consumable meat of animal	No specific title See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. A certificate to the effect that the imported goods are free from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and Avian Influenza (when applicable). Competent authority of the exporting country.	Food safety.	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
	Certificates of “Country of Origin”	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate stating products are manufactured in the USA.</p> <p>Attested by the competent authority or association related to the product.</p>	To authenticate the country of origin of the products being imported to Bangladesh.	Customs House Chittagong, National Board of Revenue.
Vegetable seed and grain used as food	<p>No specific title. Example: Certificate of Analysis</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate of radioactivity-test must indicate the level of CS-137 found in each kilogram of goods shipped.</p> <p>The competent authority of the exporting country (competent laboratory).</p>	To authenticate that the plant food has permissible level of radiation to be consumed by human.	Bangladesh Atomic Energy commission, Ministry of Science and Technology
Potato seed	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	Phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country.	Plant health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Rice Seed	Phytosanitary	Phytosanitary	Plant health	Plant Quarantine

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
	Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	certificate from the exporting country.		Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Hybrid rice seeds	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	Phytosanitary certificate that the seed is purified with hot water treatment and with approved pesticides.	Plant health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Refined edible oil	Certificate of Analysis See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Optional certificates from exporting country that confirms the quality standard. Required certificate from Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Bangladesh to confirm that the quality meets the standards level of Bangladesh. The government agency of exporting country and importing country.	Food safety and public health	Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Ministry of Industries
Raw Cotton	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	Phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country.	Plant health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture

Source: [Import Policy Order 2021-24 \(Bangla\)](#), Ministry of Commerce.

Note-1: There is no specific title, negotiated declaration (attestation), and format of certificate between the government of Bangladesh and the United States; therefore, it is recommended that the exporter verifies any information gathered from importer about required certificates and attestation on certificate.

SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

Following are the list of very general certificates required for most of the agricultural food or plant products.

1. Health Certificate – fit for human consumption
2. Phytosanitary Certificates
3. Certificate of Origin

SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

There is no specific title, negotiated declaration (attestation), and format of certificate between the government of Bangladesh and the United States; therefore, it is recommended that the exporter verifies any information gathered from importer about required certificates and attestation on certificate.

SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE'S LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Original copies of necessary import documents and certificates do not need to accompany the product at the time of entry to the port; the exporter must send all the original documents and certificates before the time of entry to the port. The exporter must send those documents through the exporting and importing country banks, which also handle the importer's letter of credit. The customs and clearing agent will submit these documents to the customs house in order to clear customs and port.

The certificates are valid only for the individual consignment and cannot be applied for multiple shipments. The certificates are valid for an approved period written in the import permit issued by the respective government office for importing agricultural and plant products. For example: import permits of agricultural and plant products are valid for four months from the issuing date of the import permit.

Bangladesh does not require export certificates to import agricultural commodities.

SECTION V. OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE MARKET ENTRY

This section is derived from the Import Policy Order 2021-2024.

1. Acceptable limits of radiation levels for milk powder, milk food, and milk products are 95 Becquerel (Bq) per kilogram of radioactive element Cesium (Cs)-137, and for other food goods, 50 Bq of Cs-137 per kilogram. The level of Cs-137 in an item shall be calculated in the state it reaches the port without being liquefied, concentrated, or processed. In case of local goods, the level of Cs-

137 in an item shall be calculated in the state it is marketed. The highest acceptable limit of radioactivity levels may be periodically revised by the government.

2. The following procedure shall be applicable in the matters of radiation test of food goods to be imported from any country, as:
 - (a) Prior to shipment of the aforesaid item(s) the inspection agent of the supplier or buyer/consignee shall make necessary arrangement for the test of radiation levels for such goods;
 - (b) Prior to the arrival of a ship carrying such goods at a Bangladeshi port, the buyer or consignee or his/her inspection agent shall make necessary arrangement for sending by courier the certificate regarding radiation level test to the concerned Customs Authority;
 - (c) No good shall be shipped with the radioactivity level above the acceptable limit;
 - (d) In case of import of food goods that were produced neither in any European country nor packed/tinned in or shipped from a third country, it is not required to submit the aforesaid certificate of the radiation level test to the Customs Authority by courier service. After collecting from exporter, the importer should provide a report on radiation level test of importable food goods mentioning the level of Cs-137 found per kilogram of the importable item; and
 - (e) A general certificate to the effect that the goods are fit for human consumption must be enclosed with the bill of lading (B. L.).
3. In case of direct import of rice, wheat, other cereals and food stuff from South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), South-East Asia and Asia-Pacific Ocean countries, the provision of the above-mentioned radiation level test shall be relaxed on fulfillment of the conditions stated in import policy order 2015-18.
4. Milk products: All kinds of milk products including baby food with fat contents covered under H. S. Heading 04. 02 or 19. 01 and all H. S. Code classifiable there under shall be importable subject to the following conditions, namely:
 - (a) Baby food produced from milk shall be imported in tin containers, airtight packages or Bag in Box up to 2.5 kg;
 - (b) Milk product with cream shall be imported in the loose covered tin containers or bag in box up to 2.5 kg;
 - (c) The Industrial enterprises, which are approved by the packing or caning Sector of Board of Investment, Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation or Director, Institute of Public Health & Nutrition, shall import milk food with cream or baby food in big airtight Hermitic Container for packing locally (retail);
 - (d) The words: "There is no alternative to breast-feeding" shall be printed clearly in relatively larger letters in Bangla in a visible space on each tin, airtight package or bag in box of baby food with cream;
 - (e) Composition and percentages of various ingredients shall be printed in Bangla on the tin containers, airtight packages or bag and boxes of milk food;

(I) The date of manufacture and the date of expiry (for human consumption) of milk products shall be embossed or computer printed in permanent ink either in Bangla or in English on each airtight package with tin container, or bag in box;

(g) The net weight of milk product shall be clearly indicated on each container in Bangla or in English; apart from this, in case of import of milk and milk product baby food, the registration number given by the Director, Institute of Public Health & Nutrition (IPIIN) shall be printed on each tin/ airtight package with tin container/ bag in box clearly;

(h) The condition mentioned at clauses (d), (e), (I) and (g) above must be embossed on each airtight package with tin container or bag in box and separate printed labels shall, in no way, be pasted on airtight package with tin container or bag in box;

(i) Measuring spoon shall be supplied airtight package with tin container or bag in box of baby food i. e. milk food having fat contents up to 19%.

5. In case of all foodstuff / edible substances importable to Bangladesh, the importers shall send information of the edible substances in a prescribed form of Bangladesh Standard & Testing Institution (BSTI) to the BSTI office and information of other food stuff to the Bangladesh Centre for Science and Industrial Research (BCSIR).
6. All foodstuff/edible substances imported into Bangladesh must undergo mandatory tests of BSTI and BCSIR. On arrival of the consignment in Bangladesh the importers shall submit samples of the goods to the BSTI/BCSIR for testing and obtain clearance certificate from them. If food stuff/edible substance does not conform to the standard, the consignment shall not be eligible for release and the importer shall be subject to legal action.
7. In case of import of food goods for human consumption as GMO (Genetically Modified Organism), LMO (Living Modified Organism) Bangladesh Bio-safety Guidelines should be followed.
8. Fish Meal and Protein Concentrate can be imported with the prior permission from the Department of Fisheries (DOF) & Department of Livestock Services (DLS) and in case of such imports source and the name of animal must be mentioned.
9. There is no need for further testing of radioactivity level of fish feed, animal and poultry feed goods after their arrival at the Bangladesh port.
10. It is to be examined by the Government recognized agency at the port of entry in Bangladesh that no Formalin is used in the imported fish and it shall be released subject to certification that there is no Formalin in it.
11. In case of import of beef, mutton or chicken or other consumable meat of animal, the date of manufacture and date of expiry must be embossed/printed on the container by the exporting country and preservation process is to be mentioned on it. Separately printed label shall not be pasted on the container.

Appendix I. Links for Each Export Certificate

Health Certificate for Export of Bovine Semen	APHIS website
Health Certificate for Export of Breeding Cattle	APHIS website
Export Certificate for Dairy Products for Human Consumption	AMS website
Phytosanitary Certificate PPQ Form 577	APHIS website

Attachments:

No Attachments