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Report Name: FAIRS Export Certificate Report Annual

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Report Highlights:

This report outlines The Bahamas' certification requirements and includes an Export Certificate Matrix as well as examples of select Export Certificates.

This report was prepared by the Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office (CBATO) in Miami, Florida, 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.

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Executive Summary

Given The Bahamas' proximity to South Florida and the fact that it imports the vast majority of its food needs from the United States, The Bahamas has historically placed a large degree of trust in U.S. food safety and animal and plant health regulatory systems. Standard sanitary and phytosanitary certificates issued by U.S. Federal regulatory authorities are fully accepted by the Government of The Bahamas. Certificates must be originals and must accompany products at the time of entry. It is recommended that U.S. suppliers have their Bahamian buyer verify compliance with all certification requirements prior to shipping any products to The Bahamas. U.S. Exporters may also refer to The Bahamas Food Agricultural Import Regulations Standards (FAIRS) Country report for more information.

Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government (Matrix)

| Product(s) | Title of Certificate | Attestation Required on Certificate | Purpose | Requesting Ministry |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Meat Products / Poultry | Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness | None. Standard FSIS 9060-5 is acceptable. | Food Safety/Food Quality & Animal Health Protection | Ministry of Agriculture (Bahamas Agricultural Food Safety Authority (BAHFSA) & Department of Agriculture/Veterinary Services Unit) |
| Unprocessed Dairy Products | Sanitary Certificate for Exports | None. Standard AMS certificate is acceptable. | Food Safety/Food Quality & Animal Health Protection | Ministry of Agriculture (BAHFSA & Department of Agriculture/Veterinary Services Unit) |
| Fresh Table Eggs ^{1/} | A. Shell Egg Grading Certificate | None. Standard AMS certificate is acceptable. | Food Safety/Food Quality | Ministry of Agriculture (BAHFSA & Department of Agriculture/Veterinary Services Unit) |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| Fresh Table Eggs ^{1/} | B. Disease Free Certification Statements For Other Countries | None. Standard AMS certificate is acceptable. | Animal Health Protection | Ministry of Agriculture (BAHFSA & Department of Agriculture/Veterinary Services Unit) |
| Plants and Unprocessed Plant Products (i.e. Fresh fruits and vegetables) | Phytosanitary Certificate | Exact attestation may vary depending on product and State/region of origin. | Plant Protection | Ministry of Agriculture (BAHFSA) |
| Unprocessed Seafood | Export Health Certificate | To be determined by BAHFSA. | Food Safety | Ministry of Agriculture (BAHFSA) |

1/ - Please note that fresh table eggs, also known as shell eggs, require two certificates for export to The Bahamas: a) the Shell Egg Grading Certificate; and b) the Disease Free Certification Statements For Other Countries.

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

- Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness: BAHFSA and the Department of Agriculture’s Veterinary Services Unit require this certificate for food quality purposes.

Note: USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issues this certificate.

- Sanitary Certificate for Exports (for unprocessed dairy products): BAHFSA and the Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services Unit require this certificate for food safety/quality purposes and animal health purposes.

Note: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issues this certificate.

- Shell Egg Grading Certificate: BAHFSA and the Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services Unit require this certificate for food safety/quality purposes.

Note: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issues this certificate.

- Disease Free Certification Statements for Other Countries: BAHFSA and the Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services Unit require this certificate for animal health purposes.

Note: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issues this certificate.

- Phytosanitary Certificate: This certificate is required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources Plant Protection Office for plant protection purposes.

Note: USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is the principal U.S. Federal Agency responsible for issuing Phytosanitary Certificates.

- Export Health Certificate (for unprocessed seafood): This certificate is required by BAHFSA for food safety purposes.

Note: This certificate is issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service, a dependency of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

For most certificates, no additional attestations are required. The attestations made on the standard forms of the certificates are acceptable. One exception to this may be the Phytosanitary Certificate. The exact attestation required, which will be outlined in the import permit that must be obtained by the importer in advance of the shipment, may vary depending on the nature of the product and phytosanitary conditions in the country of origin. The following sample attestation is meant as a guideline only:

“The products have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from pests and diseases and conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of The Bahamas.”

Another exception may be the Export Health Certificate (for unprocessed seafood). BAHFSA will make a determination on any additional requirements in this regard.

Section IV. Government Certificate’s Legal Entry Requirements

As a general rule, The Bahamas Government requires that all certificates be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. The Government will not accept U.S. State-issued certificates or manufacturer/supplier’s export declarations as proof of compliance. Customs Officials will accept the certificates for the indicated shipment only, and an original certificate must accompany the products at the time of entry.

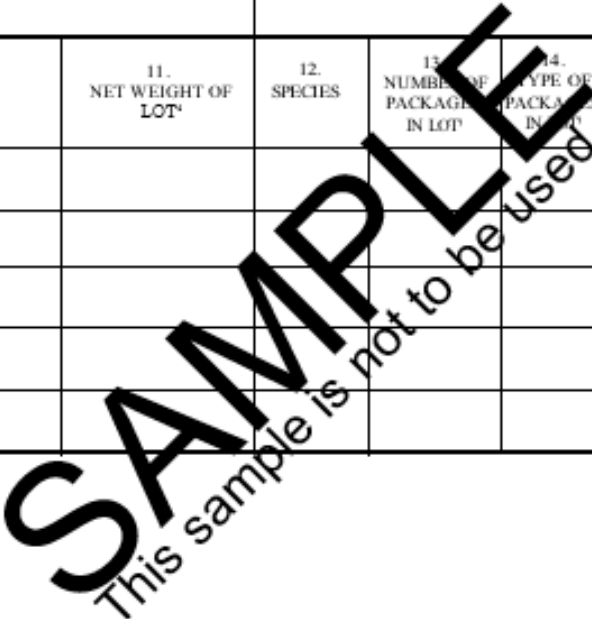

It is important to note that The Bahamas is preparing to integrate electronic phytosanitary certificates (ePhytos) by January 2021. Currently a phytosanitary certificate is required to accompany every consignment of imported plants and plant products. By accepting ePhytos, which would be received even prior to the consignment's arrival at a port of entry, The Bahamas expects to expedite imports even further.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements to Ensure Market Entry

U.S. suppliers should work closely with their Bahamian importer to ensure that they are in full compliance with the latest certification requirements and other specified conditions of entry.

Appendix I - Sample Export Certificates

FSIS Form 9060-5 Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness | | A knowingly false entry or false alteration of any entry on this certificate may result in a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both (18 U.S.C.1001). Additional penalties exist under the Federal Meat Inspection Act [21 U.S.C. 610(b) (1), (2); and (5), 21 U.S.C. 461] for an unauthorized or false alteration or misuse of this certificate. | | | | |
| 1. COUNTRY OF DESTINATION | 2. ISO CODE | 5. CERTIFICATE NUMBER MPM- | 6. CERTIFICATE TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL <input type="checkbox"/> REPLACEMENT | | | |
| 3. CONSIGNOR/EXPORTER (Applicant's name and address) | | PRODUCT EXPORTED FROM: | | | | |
| 4. CONSIGNEE/IMPORTER (Name and address) | | 7. EXPORT EST. NO. (Name and address) | | | | |
| | | 8. <u>TOTAL NET WEIGHT</u> | | 9. TOTAL NO. OF PACKAGES | | |
| 10. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT (Name of product) | 11. NET WEIGHT OF LOT ¹ | 12. SPECIES | 13. NUMBER OF PACKAGES IN LOT ¹ | 14. TYPE OF PACKAGES IN LOT ¹ | 15. SHIPPING/ IDENTIFICATION MARKS ¹ | 16. EST. NO. ON PRODUCT |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| ¹ As stated by applicant or contractor | | | | | | |
| 17. REMARKS | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18. I CERTIFY that the meat, meat food product or meat byproduct specified hereon is from animals that received both antemortem and postmortem inspection and were found sound and healthy and that it has been inspected and passed as provided by law and regulations of the Department and is sound and wholesome. | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19. I CERTIFY that the poultry, poultry products or poultry food products specified above came from birds that were officially given an antemortem and postmortem inspection and passed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture and are wholesome and fit for human consumption. | | | | | | |
| NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY A CERTIFYING OFFICIAL OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM | | | | | | |
| By order of the Secretary of Agriculture | |  | | 20. CERTIFYING OFFICIAL'S NAME AND TITLE | | 21. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY) |

This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained.
 This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.

AMS Sanitary Certificate for Exports (Dairy)



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SANITARY CERTIFICATE FOR EXPORTS



Country of Origin: USA

Certification Authority: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Reference Number of this Certificate: [CertNo]

I. Exporter (*Name and Address*)

[ExportName]

[ExportAddr]

[ExportCitySt]

II. Identification of the Dairy Products (*Information Supplied by the Manufacturer or Exporter*)

Product Description: [Description]

Condition or Kind of Treatment: [Condition]

Type of Packaging: [PkgType]

Number of Packages: [NumPkgs]

Total Net Weight: [NetWt]

Required Temperature, Storage and Transportation: [ReqTemp]

Validity Date (Shelf Life): [ShelfLife]

III. Origin of the Products: (*Information Supplied by the Manufacturer or Exporter*)

[OriginName]

[OriginCity]

Plant Number: [OriginNo]

IV. Product Destination: (*Information Supplied by the Manufacturer or Exporter*)

Origin: [DestName]

[DestAddr]

Destination: [Destination]

Method of Transport: [Transport]

V. Sanitary Certification

- (1) The United States of America is free from Foot & Mouth Disease and Rinderpest
- (2) The product was manufactured in facilities inspected and approved by the competent authority and subjected to regular audits or inspections aimed at ensuring that the processing is properly and hygienically carried out, to produce a product that is fit for human consumption.
- (3) The product was manufactured from milk or milk products that received a pasteurization treatment or adequate safeguards have been taken with the aim of avoiding public health hazards arising from pathogenic organisms associated with milk.
- (4) To the best of our knowledge, the product contains no harmful levels of contaminants.

[Date]

[Name]

[Title]

USDA, Dairy Grading

Date Signed

AMS Shell Egg Grading Certificate

(See reverse side of form for OMB and EEO Statement)

FORM OMB APPROVED: NO. 0581-0128

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND SEED PROGRAM



SHELL EGG GRADING CERTIFICATE

This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the laws and regulations enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.

CERTIFICATE NO.

SEA-

PLACE EXAMINED

PLANT NUMBER

APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER 1/

NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER 1/

Egg Producer
 Address
 City, State, Zip Code

Shipper or Seller Name
 Address
 City, State, Zip Code

| LOT NO. | NO. OF CONTAINERS PER LOT 1/ | NO. OF CONTAINERS EXAMINED | NET WT. 2/ | PERCENTAGES | | | | | | | | U.S. OFFICIAL GRADE AND SIZE |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|---|---|----|-------|--------|------|--------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | AA | A | B | B* | Dites | Checks | Loss | Under Wt. 3/ | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| LOT NO. | DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All |
|---------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| | EGGS | TYPE OF PACKING | TYPE OF PACKAGING | CASE QUALITY RANGE | CHARACTER OF LOSS | WHERE HELD AND TEMPERATURE | CASES STAMPED WITH | |
| | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All |
| | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All |
| | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All |
| | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All |

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION

Product represented by this certificate meets specification requirements for:

Check each applicable box:

Product represented on this certificate meets the requirements for the stated **GRADE** and size as determined by online sampling on _____.

Disease Free Certification Statements attached.

REMARKS

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

AMS Shell Egg Grading Certificate, continued.

In compliance with the Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture Governing the Grading of Shell Eggs, issued pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, and any other Act of Congress conferring like authority, it is certified that the product(s) listed hereon were examined, and that the class, quality, quantity, and/or condition of the product(s) at the time and on the date shown, were as stated above.

OFFICIAL GRADER (Printed Name & Signature)

DATE

1. Eggs stated by applicant or contractor.
2. Weights based on 30-dozen equivalent.

3. Eggs reported as undersized are also reported under other headings according to their quality. |

LPS-210 § (05/2017) (Previous FY-210S editions may be used.)

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AMS Disease Free Statement Certification for Other Countries



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 3935-S, STOP 0258
Washington, DC 20250-0258

Disease Free Certification Statements for Other Countries

Shell Egg Grading Certificate No. SEA - _____ Dated: _____

“The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services certifies that:

The shell eggs were produced in a zone that was free of HPAI for 21 days prior to lay;

No cases of velogenic Newcastle disease (VND) have been reported in commercial laying chicken flocks in the county(ies) of origin where the eggs originated from. These eggs were produced in the county(ies) in the state of (_____) identified below:


The shell eggs covered by this certificate were produced by birds originating from breeding flocks classified Salmonella enteritidis (SE) Clean, which have not been identified within 90 days before shipment by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, as being infected with SE, including SE phage type 4.”

Signature of Grader

APHIS PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE – PPQ Form 577

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 0579-0052

No phytosanitary certificate can be issued until an application is completed (7 CFR 353)

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF SAMPLE | FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY |  | |
| | PLACE OF ISSUE | | SAMPLE |
| | NO. | | FPC XXXXXXX |
| | DATE INSPECTED | | |

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the plants, plant product or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests, specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.


DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. DATE | 2. TREATMENT |
| 3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient) | 4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE |
| 5. CONCENTRATION | 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION |

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

| | |
|---|--|
| 7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER SAMPLE | 8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE SAMPLE |
| 9. NAME OF PRODUCE AND QUANTITY DECLARED SAMPLE | 10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS SAMPLE |
| 11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES SAMPLE | 12. DISTINGUISHING MARKS SAMPLE |
| 13. PLACE OF ORIGIN SAMPLE | 14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE SAMPLE |
| | 15. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY |

WARNING: Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------|
| ADDITIONAL DECLARATION | | |
| SAMPLE |  NAPPO | SAMPLE |

Page 1 of 1

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 16. DATE ISSUED | 17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print) | 18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------------|

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

NOAA Export Health Certificate



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
SEAFOOD INSPECTION PROGRAM



CERTIFICATE NO.:
DATE:

EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFICATE

This certificate is admissible in all Courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any Federal or State laws. WARNING: Any person who shall falsely make issue, alter, forge or certify, or participate in any action, is subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than (1) year, or both [7 U.S.C. 1622(h)].

ISSUING OFFICE:

EXPORTED BY:

CONSIGNED TO:

SHIPPED VIA:

PORT OF EMBARKATION

PORT OF DEBARKATION

IDENTIFYING MARKS:
NA

TOTAL CONTAINERS
571

TOTAL MARKED WEIGHT
14275.00 lb/ 6475.10 kg

| PRODUCT | CLASS, TYPE STYLE | LOT NO. & CODE | CONTAINER SIZE | NO. CONTAINERS | LOT WEIGHT | | LABEL BRAND |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|----|-------------|
| | | | | | LBS | KG | |
| | | | | | | | |

RESULTS:

REMARKS:

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| <p><i>I certify that in compliance with the regulations of the Secretary of Commerce governing the inspection and certification of the product designated herein pursuant to the act of August 14, 1946, as amended (7 U.S. C. 1621-1627), samples from lots indicated above have been examined in accordance with current regulations and standards and the results are shown above.</i></p> <p>SIGNATURE/NO. OF INSPECTOR</p> | <p>OFFICIAL STAMP</p> |
|---|------------------------------|

PLEASE REFER TO THIS CERTIFICATE BY NUMBER AND DATE.

Attachments:

No Attachments