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Prepared By: Xavier Audran

Approved By: David Leishman

Report Highlights:

As a member of the European Union, France implements EU regulations for the import of animal and plant products. The US export certification requirements for most products are harmonized at the EU level; however, a few products, which are not yet harmonized across the EU, are still subject to French national regulations.

Disclaimer : *This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Paris. While the information contained in this report was collected with every due diligence, U.S. exporters are strongly encouraged to verify import requirements with their French customers. Local importers are usually in the best position to verify requirements and clarify any ambiguities with local authorities, **before goods are shipped.***

All certificates must be in the official language of France, therefore all certificates must be either bilingual (French / English) or, if the original U.S. certificate is in English only, it must be accompanied by a certified translation in French.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT INTO FRANCE IS SUBJECT TO FRENCH AND EU RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY FRENCH PORT OF ENTRY OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

As a member of the European Union, France implements EU regulations for the import of products of animal and plant origin. Export certification requirements for most products destined for the EU market are therefore harmonized at the EU level. For more information on export certifications for the EU market, please refer to the 2023 [EU Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Report | E42023-0041](#) which can be found on the USEU website: <http://www.usda-eu.org/reports/> or on the USDA GAIN search engine: <https://gain.fas.usda.gov/#/search>

EU Regulations EC 853/2004, EC 2017/625 and EC 2022/2292 describe entry conditions for composite products. A composite product is defined as a food product containing both processed products of animal origin (dairy, egg, fishery products, or meat products) and products of plant origin. [USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service \(FSIS\) is the designated U.S. Agency to issue EU composite product certificates](#) for products produced at FSIS-regulated facilities that bear the USDA mark of inspection. The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Dairy Program is the designated U.S. Agency to issue EU composite product certificates for products that are NOT produced in an FSIS-regulated facility and therefore do not bear the mark of a USDA inspection, AMS is authorized to issue EU composite certificates even when dairy is not an ingredient in the composite product.

EU import requirements for composite products may impact U.S. stakeholders that previously may have not been required to obtain an AMS export certificate in the past. To request an AMS certificate, all customers are required to establish a USDA level 2 e-authentication account. Please refer to the following website [How to Apply for an AMS Dairy or Composite Product Export Certificate](#) for more information

For shelf stable products not containing dairy or meat, a U.S. Government issued certificate is not required. For these products, the importer must simply declare that the goods meet the relevant EU requirements, using the "Private Attestation" model form.

For products that are subject to French national regulations (i.e. not yet harmonized at the EU level), please refer to the FAS Paris [France Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Annual Report | FR2023-0007](#). Please note that import requirements are subject to change. U.S. exporters are encouraged to work closely with their importing partners to verify the latest requirements for non-harmonized products. Imported products must meet existing EU Member State requirements and all products must be accompanied by the proper certification documentation at port of arrival. In general, health certificates are required for all imported products of animal origin and phytosanitary certificates are needed for all plant products that could introduce pests into the EU. In France, food safety remains the primary responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty.

Inquiries on import requirements should be addressed (in French) to the

Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation, Direction Générale de l'Alimentation
Service d'inspection vétérinaire et phytosanitaire aux frontières (SIVEP)
Sous Direction des Affaires Sanitaires Européennes et Internationales (SDASEI)
251 rue de Vaugirard 75352 Paris cedex 15 France
Tel : +33(0)1 49 55 81 74 Fax : +33 (0)1 49 55 83 14
Email : import.dgal@agriculture.gouv.fr

A database of import regulations is available (in French) at:

<https://teleprocedures.franceagrimer.fr/impadon/>

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Typically, it is the importer's responsibility to apply for the certificate, providing all the relevant details to the national authority. Sometimes this responsibility falls on the exporter or the freight forwarder. There is no set form for this kind of application. EU food regulations are available in the 24 official languages of the EU (including French and English), and these are published in the EU Official Journal. The Eurlex website <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm> provides free access to the full compendium of European Union rules and regulations. EU plant and plant product import regulations that have been harmonized are published in single EU directives. Unlike veterinary products, there is only one model certificate for all plant products in line with international regulations that are set by the International Plant Protection Convention of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. www.ippc.int/

This report accompanies the 2023 [EU Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Report | E42023-0041](#) and the [France Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Annual Report | FR2023-0007](#) prepared by the USDA Office at the U.S. Mission to the European Commission (USEU) and the USDA FAS Paris office. For additional information on US export

certifications for the EU market, please refer to the USEU USDA/ FAS website: <http://www.usda-eu.org/reports/>

USDA FAS Contacts in Paris, France

Bureau des Affaires Agricoles - Foreign Agricultural Service / USDA

American Embassy

2, avenue Gabriel, 75008 Paris - France

Tel : +33 (0)1 43 12 24 20 Email : agparis@usda.gov

Attachments:

No Attachments