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Report Highlights:

The Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report provides an overview of the food laws and regulatory environment in Algeria as it relates to food and agricultural exports. A majority of U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria are bulk and intermediate commodities. Wheat, tree nuts, soybeans, dairy products, forest products and planting seeds remain the most promising commodities for the Algerian market. The Algerian market holds tremendous potential for U.S. livestock and genetics. Market access has been obtained for bovine embryos, and hatching eggs and day-old chicks for chicken.

DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Algiers, Algeria for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was 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. All the Official Journals (Journal Officiel) (JO.) included in this report can be found at the website: <https://www.joradp.dz/HFR/Index.htm>. (The website can be read in English. However, all the journals are in Arabic and French.)

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Executive Summary

Most U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria are bulk and intermediate commodities. In 2019, the commodities leading the U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria were: wheat, tree nuts, dairy products, soybeans, feed & fodders, forest products, and planting seeds, as well as live animals, cotton, and pulses. The Algerian market holds tremendous potential for U.S. livestock and genetics. The U.S. and Algerian veterinary officials reached agreement on the certificates to export U.S. bovine embryos, hatching eggs and day-old chicks for chicken to Algeria. The U.S. and Algerian regulatory agencies have not yet reached an agreement on the certificates for bovine semen, dairy cattle or beef cattle.

The agriculture sector is one of the priority sectors for the government in its efforts to diversify the economy and attract foreign and domestic investment outside the energy sector. The economic development plan of the new government elected in December 2019 focuses on reviving and diversifying the Algerian economy toward sustainable growth. The plan also proposes improvements in the business climate, development of strategic sectors, and promotion of exports while controlling imports. The agriculture sector remains one of the priority sectors for the government in its development strategy.

Algeria's imports of agricultural commodities and food represented 19.25 percent (\$8.07 billion) of the total imports (\$41.93 billion) in 2019. To boost agricultural development and production, the new economic development plan encourages modern industrial agriculture using satellites, digitization, and other innovative tools, as well as renewable energies.

The government encourages large-scale agricultural investments in the Highlands and the "Sahara" (South of Algeria). Furthermore, the development strategy promotes foreign direct investments and partnerships in the field of cereals, oilseeds, and sugar production in addition to crushing and refinery projects as well as storage, packaging and cold chain infrastructures.

Algeria adapted the legislative and regulatory framework for quality control, for locally produced and imported food to ensure consumer safety and protection.

Several ministerial departments are responsible for controlling food quality and safety in Algeria, including the Ministry of Agriculture (control of animals and animal products, plant health, seeds, etc.), Ministry of Health and Ministry of Commerce (food and quality inspection).

The government of Algeria (GoA) is pursuing a strategy to control imports and protect domestic production. The GoA dropped the import licensing system implemented in 2017 and replaced it with the import ban implemented in 2018. In 2019, the government replaced the import ban with a [temporary additional safeguard duty \(in French: Droit Additionnel Provisoire de Sauvegarde, \(DAPs\)\)](#). This tax is to be added to the customs duty and the value-added tax (VAT). The temporary additional safeguard duty (DAPs) is still current.

Section I. Food Laws

Algeria has developed a control system for locally produced and imported food to ensure consumer safety and protection. Algeria adapted the legislative and regulatory framework for quality control, coupled with modernizing and strengthening control structures to improve market surveillance.

The regulatory framework for consumer protection and fraud prevention is based on February 25, 2009's [Law 09-03](#) on consumer protection and fraud prevention. This Act repeals and replaces the February 7, 1989 [Law 89-02](#) (published on the Official Journal (Journal Officiel) (JO.) No 06 on February 8, 1989) on the general rules of consumer protection.

All the Official Journals (Journal Officiel (JO.) (in French) can be found at the website: www.joradp.dz. (The website can be read in English. However, all the journals are in Arabic and French).

Algeria has developed regulations on labeling, food additives, hygiene, product safety, and the control of locally produced and imported products as well as the specifications to be met by various foods.

Several ministerial departments are responsible for controlling food quality and safety in Algeria, including the Ministry of Agriculture (control of animals and animal products, plant health, seeds, etc.), Ministry of Health and Ministry of Commerce (food and quality inspection).

The Algerian Ministry of Commerce is responsible for food inspections, quality control and combating fraud, as well as labeling regulations and laboratory inspections. Information regarding food inspection, quality control and labeling can be found at the Ministry of Commerce's website: <https://www.commerce.gov.dz/reglementation>.

The Ministry of Agriculture has the legislative responsibility for domestic food production and for health and safety aspects of imported agriculture and food products into Algeria. Information related to domestic production and imported agricultural products can be found on the Ministry of Agriculture's website: <http://madrp.gov.dz/agriculture-2/>. The website can only be read in Arabic or French.

All imported food and goods are subject to conformity control at ports of entry by a joint team composed of inspectors from the following Ministries: Commerce, Agriculture, Customs, and Transport in accordance with the terms and conditions under the provisions of the January 30, 1990 [Executive Decree No 90-39](#), (published in JO. No 05 on January 31, 1990), amended and supplemented. (See Section IX)

Food Standards are consistent with Codex Alimentarius. The Ministry of Commerce leads the Codex Committee. The Codex Alimentarius National Committee (Comité National du Codex Alimentarius, CNCA)(in French) was created by January 30, 2005's [Executive Decree No. 05-67](#) (published in JO. No 10 on February 06, 2005). The Committee has a Permanent Secretariat provided by the Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging called in French (CACQUE).

In January 2018, the GoA replaced the import licensing system implemented in 2017 by a temporary import ban. The May 21, 2018 [Decree No 18-139](#) (published in the JO. No 29 on May 23, 2018) suspended 851 products, of which 576 were agricultural. In May 2018, the temporary ban list was extended to 877 products of which 622 were agricultural products, mostly processed and high-value products. The fully revised former list of banned products can be found at: <https://www.commerce.gov.dz/reglementation/decret-executif-n-deg-18-139>.

In January 2019, the GoA replaced this import ban implemented in 2018 with a [temporary additional safeguard duty \(Droit Additionnel Provisoire de Sauvegarde, \(DAPs\)\)](#). The GoA not only maintains the DAPs but will also extend the list of products subject to this additional duty. The list is expected by the end of 2020.

For background, the previous list of goods subject to the temporary additional safeguard duty and the corresponding rates were published on January 27, 2019 in the [Journal Officiel No 06](#) as part of the January 26, 2019 Ordinance. The list included 1,095 items of which 658 were food and 437 industrial products in addition to their tariff codes and the corresponding DAPs rates. Food items represent 60% of the list. Processed and high value products comprise most of the listed food items. Later, on April 21, 2019, the Ministry of Commerce updated the list through the new [Ordinance, published in the Journal Officiel No.26](#) . This ordinance exempted some food items from the DAPs including tree nuts, peanuts, dried raisins, dried fruits, butter, and fresh or chilled beef. The revision removed the 30 percent additional duty on tree nuts, 70 percent additional duty on peanuts, butter and dried fruits, and the 50 percent additional duty on beef. All these rates are in addition to an existing 30 percent customs duty and a 19 percent value added tax (VAT). On the revised list, the number of items subject to DAPs decreased from 1,095 to 992 items of which 555 are processed foods and 437 are industrial products.

Food items represent 56 percent of this list. The DAPs rates for food items remained the same. The rates are either 30 percent, 70 percent or 120 percent.

The detailed list in English can be found in FAS reports at: https://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Trade%20Policy%20Update_Algeria_Algeria_2-12-2019.pdf

The original full revised list in French with the current DAPs rate can be found at: <https://www.joradp.dz/FTP/jo-francais/2019/F2019026.pdf>.

Section II. Labeling Requirements

The Ministry of Commerce regulates food labeling through several decrees.

In December 2005, a new policy entered into force; - regarding labeling and language- to modify and complete November 10, 1990 [Decree No 90-366](#) (published in the November 21, 1990 Journal Officiel No 50) related to labeling and presentation of foodstuffs.

[The December 22, 2005 Executive Decree no 05-484](#) (published in the December 25, 2005 JO No 83), modifies and completes the labeling and presentation of foodstuffs pre-packed or not, presented to consumers as it is and food destined to restaurants, hospitals, and other local communities. The decree redefines the technical terms for: labeling, label, foodstuff, lot, manufacture and packaging date, as well as shelf life, sales date's limit, ingredient, and food additives.

Labeling information must be written in Arabic mandatory, and other commonly understood languages in Algeria. English or French are optional. (The information must be visible, legible and indelible)

Labeling information should contain:

- Sales denomination or product's name;
- Net amount for pre-packed food;
- Name, trademark and address of the manufacturer or packer or distributor and of the importer if the product is imported;
- Country of origin;
- Manufacture lot identification;
- Instructions and precautions of use;
- Manufacture or packing date and limit date for consumption in case of very perishable product;
- Ingredients list;
- Particular conditions for preservation;
- International Irradiation symbol or the mention "treated by radiation or ionization" if it is the case.

Later, the February 28, 2009 [Order](#) exempted certain foodstuffs labeling from the lot identification mention (published in the JO No. 19 on March 25, 2009). Products subject to the provisions of this decree are the foodstuffs rapidly perishable (of which the expiration date is less than or equal to three (3) months). This is provided that the expiry date mentioned on the labeling is clearly mentioned in plain text and in the order; at least of the day and the month.

[The March 13, 2000, Order](#), regulates the packaging and labeling of phytosanitary products (or pesticides) for agricultural use. (See Section IV)

[The June 18, 2006 Decree no 06-217](#) (published in the JO No. 41 on 21 Juin, 2006) regulates storage conditions, packaging as well as labeling of seeds and seedlings. (See Section IV)

In addition to the commercial labels that remain regulated by the regulations in force, seeds and seedling must have an official indelible label affixed to the seed package or attached to bunches, containers or other seedling packing means.

For all seeds and plants, the official label should show the following:

- The common name
- The scientific name

- The variety and / or the rootstock
- The number of the clone
- The production year
- The batch of production of seeds or seedlings
- The visa of the national phytotechnical authority agents' control
- Pre-basic or basic categories, certified and standard are represented using colored labels.

The Ministry of Agriculture sets the characteristics for these official labels as well as their colors. Any offenses or breaches to the regulation for storage, packaging and labeling of seeds and seedlings is punishable by the penalties provided by the legislation in force.

- Other Specific Labeling Requirement (s)

Algeria is a Muslim country and halal is mandatory. Regulations providing specifications regarding halal food products and the requirements were implemented through the following orders:

[The March 17, 2014 Order](#) (published in JO. No15 on March 19, 2014) adopted the technical regulation laying down the rules relating to halal foodstuffs and the regulatory requirements applying to halal food. The decree describes the technical requirement for halal food, non halal food, halal food processing requirements, and international standards used as well as the commercialization requirements of the halal food related to packaging, labeling, storage, and transportation. The decree also covers the halal slaughtering and the sanitary control requirements.

Since June 2017, the halal certification for some food products is mandatory. The June 14, 2016 [Interministerial Order](#) (published in the JO. No 70 on December 8, 2016) lays down the conditions and procedures for affixing the word "halal" for the related foodstuffs, pursuant to the provisions of Article 12 (point 14) of November 9, 2013 [Executive Decree No 13-378](#) (published in the JO. No 58 on November 18, 2013) setting the terms and conditions for consumer information. The November 9, 2013 decree guarantees the consumer's right for information and describes the components related to labeling and the ingredients labeling.

The list of products requiring halal certification is not yet established but will be determined by the National Committee for monitoring certification and marking "halal" chaired by the Ministry of Commerce. All imported products and those manufactured locally with imported raw material will be included in this list.

The Algerian Institute for Standardization (IANOR) is the certifying body for local products. While for imported products, the authorized bodies in their countries of origin must issue the "halal" conformity certificate and the latter must be recognized by the Monitoring Committee for certification and marking "halal". This national committee is composed of several Ministries, including Agriculture, Health, Industry, Religious Affairs as well as public bodies and institutions such as the High Islamic Council and the Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging (CACQUE).

The October 19, 2017 [Interdepartmental Decree](#) (published in JO. No 25 on May 2, 2018) fixes the applicable food nutrition value labeling rules. This decree lays down the nutritional labeling of foodstuffs pursuant to the provisions of Article 14 of November 9, 2013 [Executive Decree No 13-378](#), (published in JO. No 58 on November 18, 2013) setting the terms and conditions for consumer information. These provisions apply to prepackaged foodstuffs intended for human consumption. Nutritional labeling includes:

- declaration of nutrients (list of the nutrients)
- additional nutritional information

Foodstuffs for which the provisions of this decree do not apply are:

- Unprocessed products that include a single ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- Processed products having, for any transformation, been subject to maturation, and which include only one ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- Waters intended for human consumption, including those carbon and / or flavorings have been added;
- Aromatic plants, spices or their mixtures;
- Salt and salt substitutes;
- Table-top sweeteners; Infusions (herbal or fruit), teas, decaffeinated teas, instant or soluble teas or tea extracts, teas instant or soluble or decaffeinated tea extracts, with no added ingredients other than flavorings that do not affect the nutritional value of tea;
- Fermented vinegars and their substitutes, including those that only added ingredients are flavorings;
- Aromas;
- Food additives;
- Technological aids;
- Food enzymes;
- Gelling substances;
- Yeasts;
- Chewing gum;
- Foodstuffs, including homemade products, supplied directly by the manufacturer in small quantities to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.

Section III. Packaging and Container Requirements

[The March 13, 2000 ordinance](#), (published in the JO. No 28 on May 14, 2000) regulates the packaging of phytosanitary products for agricultural use (pesticides). The latter must be contained in strong, watertight packaging, on which the following information and indications are affixed, indelible and legible, in the national language (Arabic) and in another language. These include:

- Name and address of the manufacturer.
- The trade name and the registration number of the product in Algeria.
- The chemical and centesimal composition of the active substances or the biological titration of the products expressed in international units.
- The dose, the instructions for use and the users for whom the product has been approved in Algeria as well as the possible contraindications.
- Production and expiration dates.
- Special safety precautions for the use and preservation.
- First aid and antidotes when they exist
- The time before harvest and the last application on the plants to be protected.

In addition, particularly dangerous agricultural products for agricultural use must bear pictograms illustrating the nature of the danger associated with their detention and use, as well as specific precautions.

[The June 18, 2006 Decree no 06-217](#) (published in JO. No 41 on June 21, 2006) regulates storage conditions, packaging and labeling of seeds and seedlings. Storage conditions for seeds and seedlings are defined technically by species and group of species by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Seeds can only be marketed in hermetic packaging to guarantee the best conditions for their conservation. Seedlings with roots can be marketed in bunches. They are also marketed in containers or by any other means to guarantee the quality of the plant.

In addition to the commercial labels that remain regulated by the regulations in force, for seed and propagating material, an official label must be affixed to the seed package or attached to bunches, containers or other plant packing means.

Section IV. Food Additive Regulations

The May 15, 2012 [Executive Decree No 12-214](#) (published in the JO. No 30 on May 16, 2012) lays down, terms and conditions for use of food additives in food for human consumption. The decree was issued based on a joint report by the Ministries of: Commerce, Health, Industry, SME's and Agriculture. This decree sets conditions and terms of use for food additives in foodstuffs for human consumption. This decree lists the authorized additives in food ([Annex I](#)), the list of food categories in which additives can be incorporated ([Annex II](#)) and the additives that can be incorporated in food and their maximum limit authorized ([Annex III](#)). Copies of the Annexes I, II and III and the updates are also available at the Regional Commerce Directorates, in the wilayas, at the Algeria Center for Quality Control and Packaging (CACQUE) as well as the Chambers of Commerce and Industries.

The additives incorporated in animal feed are excluded from the scope of this decree. Contaminants and pesticides residues are not considered under any circumstances as food additives.

Only halal food additives (any food additive whose consumption is permitted by the Muslim religion) can be incorporated in foodstuffs. For agro-industry use, “halal” and “nature of the food additive” may appear either on the packaging or in the documents accompanying the product.

The detailed use (ways of incorporation, quantities and maximum concentrations) of the food additive is listed in the decree.

Section V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants

Algeria regulates imports and exports of pesticides, also commonly referred to in Algeria as phytosanitary products for agricultural use. The phytosanitary authority represented by the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT) oversees pesticide regulation and enforcement. All phytosanitary products for agricultural use must be subject to a prior approval issued by the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT). (See Section VII).

[The January 31, 2010 Executive Decree n °10-69](#) (published in JO. No 09 on February 3, 2010) lays down the measures applicable when importing and exporting plant products for agricultural use.

In accordance with the regulations in force, only licensed importers can import phytosanitary products for agricultural use. In addition, importers must receive supplies from manufacturers and / or companies authorized in their country of origin by their competent authorities. Imports are prohibited when the products are not approved in their country of origin. Imports must be accompanied by a bulletin of analysis corresponding to each lot justifying that the product complies with requirements that preceded its approval in Algeria. The bulletin must be delivered by a laboratory approved by the official services of the country of origin.

The December 15, 2014 [Executive Decree No. 14-366](#) (published in the JO. No 74 on December 25, 2014) defines and fixes the terms and conditions related to contaminants tolerated in food intended for human consumption.

The decree lists the components that are considered contaminants when they exceed the maximum limits tolerated:

- Pesticide residues
- Residues of technological processing
- Residues of veterinary medicinal products or residues of pharmacologically active substances
- Natural toxins such as toxic metabolites, mycotoxins that are present in the commodity food is not intentional
- Microbial toxins produced by algae that accumulate in edible aquatic organisms like shells and crustaceans
- Other chemical contaminants such as nitrates, heavy metals, dioxins, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB).
- Contaminants by radioactive elements such as radionuclides.

On October 7, 2019, Algeria published the March 6, 2019 [new Order](#) in the Journal Officiel No 62. The new order fixes the authorized constituents or groups of components in the cleaning products of material or equipment that will be in contact with foodstuffs. The authorized constituents and groups of constituents as well as their concentrations in the cleaning products are set out in the annex of this decree.

The provisions of this order enter into force six months after the date of publication in the Journal official.

Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration measures

Only varieties approved and registered in the Varieties' Official Catalog are authorized to be produced, bred, imported, exported, distributed and marketed, (Art 17 of [the February 6, 2005 Law no 05-03](#). Procedures to apply for registration of varieties and species are in the official catalog of species and varieties and can be found at: <http://madrp.gov.dz/agriculture/services-phytosanitaire/procedures/>.

For more specifications, the National Center for Certification and Control of Seeds and Plants (CNCC) oversees the process: <http://cncc.dz/contact> (see Appendix I).

All phytosanitary products for agricultural use (pesticides) must be subject to a prior approval issued by the Phytosanitary Authority represented by the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT).

Please submit applications for the registration of plant protection products for agricultural use to the Technical Secretariat of the Commission for Agricultural Phytosanitary Products at the (DPVCT).

The application for registration of phytosanitary products for agricultural use is completed by the applicant domiciled in Algeria. The firm authorizing the applicant must provide the latter with a letter of accreditation authorizing the registration process.

Details on the constitution of the file can be found at: http://www.minagri.dz/WEB%20DPVCT/procedures_homologation.html.

[The February 6, 2005 Law no 05-03](#) (published in JO. No 11 on February 9, 2005) regulates the seeds and seedlings approval, production, breeding and marketing of seeds and seedlings used in plant production as well as plant variety protection. This Act describes the process for approval of varieties of seeds and seedlings and controls the conditions of their production, their marketing and their use as well as the protection of new varieties of plants.

The law defines the National Phytotechnical Authority which falls under Ministry of Agriculture. This authority oversees approving varieties of seeds and seedlings and controls the conditions of their production, their marketing and their use as well as the protection of new varieties of plants. It

comprises a national seed and planting commission and includes specialized technical committees and technical inspectors.

For animal products and products of animal origin imports, the importer is required to include the agreement or accreditation for the hygiene of his establishment to obtain the import authorization or “derogation sanitaire” prior to importation. A specimen of the import authorization “derogation sanitaire” can be found at: <http://www.minagri.dz/veterinaire.html>.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards

Microbiological specifications are regulated for some foods by decree. [The January 24, 1998 Inter-ministerial decree](#) amends and supplements the July 23, 1994 decree relating to the microbiological specifications of certain foodstuffs (published in the JO. No. 35 on 27 May 1998).

All imported food and goods are subject to the conformity control at ports of entry in compliance with [the December 10, 2005 Executive Decree no 05-467 . This decree was published in JO. No 80 on December 11, 2005.](#)

The conformity control of the imported products is exercised at land, sea and air border posts. It is carried out by border inspections under the administration responsible for consumer protection and the fight against fraud (Ministry of Commerce) in accordance with the provisions of January 30, 1990 [Executive Decree No 90-39](#), (published in JO. No 05 on January 31, 1990), as amended and supplemented.

The control is performed before the clearance of the imported products based on a file presented to the inspectorate at the borders by the importer or by his duly authorized representative. The file includes:

- the declaration of the importation of the product, duly filled in by the importer
- a certified copy of the extract from the trade register
- a certified copy of the invoice
- the original of any other document required by the regulations in force and relating to the conformity of the imported products.

The documents for border control of imported products are the ones provided for (above) and / or on the visual check of the product, which can be supplemented with samples. The check is made in such a way as not to alter the quality and / or product safety and in the same way as for a similar product of local origin.

Visual inspections of the product are performed to ensure:

- that product compliance meets legal or regulatory specifications characterizing it;
- that product compliance meets the conditions of its handling, transport and storage;
- that the product conforms to the indications given on labeling and / or accompanying documents

- the absence of any products' possible alteration or contamination.

Sampling during the border control is decided on the basis of:

- the results of the examination of documents or the visual checks carried out
- the origin, nature, type, presentation and the level of risk the product presents
- the history of the product and the importer.
- the reliability of the inspections carried out at the exporting country and the places of handling.
- the priorities set by the administration responsible for consumer protection and the repression of fraud (Ministry of Commerce).

If no offense is found after the inspection of the documents referred to above or after visual inspection of the product and if no samples are deemed necessary, the border inspection issues the importer or his duly authorized representative, an authorization of admission of the product. Otherwise, a refusal order is issued for the product and the reason for refusal must be explicitly mentioned.

When the importer disputes the reasons for admission refusal, the importer may appeal or authorize a representative at the Commerce Directorate of the wilaya to introduce an appeal. The appeal must be made within eight (8) days to /from the date of notification of the refusal of the product. The Commerce Directorate of the Wilaya has four (4) working days to verify the reasons given for the recourse. When these checks, materialized by a report, contradict the conclusions which motivated the decision of refusing admission, that decision is annulled. Otherwise, the refusal is maintained. The cancellation of the refusal decision is notified to the importer by the border inspection.

When visual inspection of the product needs sampling, the sample will be sent without delay and in the conditions avoiding any alteration of the product to the quality control and fraud prevention laboratory or an approved laboratory, for analysis or tests.

The November 23, 1993 [Executive Decree no 93-286](#) (published in the JO. No 78 on November 28, 1993) regulates seeds and seedlings as well as the phytosanitary control at the ports of entry and borders. In compliance with this decree, a phytosanitary control is mandatory for all plants, plant products and plant materials as defined in the article 2 of the August 1987 [law no 87-17](#) (published in the JO. No.32 on August 05, 1987).

Those plant products that have undergone processing by heat treatment or preservation excluding any risk of spreading harmful organisms are exempted from the phytosanitary control defined by the Article 2 of the August 1987 [law no 87-17](#).

[The April 7, 2004 Order](#) (published in JO. No 07 on January 23, 2005) amends and supplements the May 21, 1995 Order fixing the phytotechnical and phytosanitary standards for imports of seeds and seedlings of the vegetables, cereals, fruits and viticulture. This decree lists the crops and seeds with the standards for (varietal purity, humidity, germination rates for the different categories as well as the phytosanitary standards for seeds.

[The May 7, 2015 Order](#) (published in the JO. No 44 on August 19, 2015) modifies and completes [the Order of July 14, 2002](#), (published in the JO. No 62 on September 15, 2002) that establishes the list of

plant varieties requiring authorization prior to importation and specifies the phytosanitary requirements. All plant or plant products are subject to import authorization prior to importation. The specifications are listed in the authorization for each product.

To import these products, the importer has to request officially from Ministry of Agriculture the - importation by submitting a file with documents that can be found at: <http://madrp.gov.dz/agriculture/services-phytosanitaire/procedures/>. Among these documents, a non-GMO certificate needs to accompany the products to attest that the plant material has not undergone any transfer or modification of genes. Genetically engineered plant material importation, production, distribution, and commercialization as well as their utilization is prohibited by the Ministry of Agriculture's December 24, 2000 [Decree](#) (published in the Official Journal on January 7, 2001), except for research purposes. The plant material includes live plants or pieces of live plants, including their dormant buds, and tendrils, grafts, and tubers, as well as rhizomes, cuttings, shoots, and seeds intended for propagation and reproduction.

Regarding animal products: the November 16, 1991 [Executive Decree No 91-452](#) (published in the JO. No 59 on November 20, 1991), regulates the veterinary inspections at borders posts. The decree defines the ports, airports and land borders posts where imports, exports as well as transit of animals and products of animal origin are authorized access. The decree clarifies the conditions of the implementation of the chapter III and IV of the [January 26, 1988 Law 88-08](#) (published in the JO. No 04 on January 27, 1988), related to veterinary medicine activities and animal health protection.

The decree states all the animals and products of animal origin requiring sanitary, veterinary inspection upon arrival or departure at border posts. The list includes among others; cattle, poultry, meat, dairy and dairy products, eggs, and semen for artificial insemination, as well as processed products of animal origin, pasture and animal feed. All the products listed in the law are subject to a sanitary authorization prior to import called commonly "derogation sanitaire" except processed products with animal origin, concentrates for animal feed and pets. This authorization certifies that no reportable disease has been reported in the country of origin of the import. This document is delivered by the official veterinary services at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The sanitary control consists of:

- A control of the sanitary veterinary health certificates required by the regulation in force
- A sanitary and qualitative control for animal products or of animal origin, supplemented with samples for laboratory analysis.
- A control of the conformity with the prescriptions in matter of disinfection and preliminary disinfection of the means of transport, hygiene of this means and the conditions of transport of the animals, animal products and products of animal origin. If products are doubtful, the latter will be bonded or quarantined in case of live animals

If the inspection results in a refusal, all involved parties are notified immediately by a decision. The Ministry of Agriculture delivers the form for this decision. The owner of the refused products may

notify the involved parties within 48 hours of his intention to proceed or have any expertise carried out at his own expense. The expertise may be assigned to any expert or laboratory approved by the official veterinary authority. In case the refusal is maintained, the owner can appeal to the wilaya's territorially competent veterinary inspector who has five (05) working days to decide. The possible costs of bonding, storage and other charges incurred during the appraisal and the duration of the appeal are the responsibility of the owner of the products.

Section VIII. Trademarks, Brand Names and Intellectual Property Rights

Algeria has been a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) since April 1975.

Any brand of products or services cannot be used in Algeria without having been subject to registration with the competent service.

Trademarks are regulated by the July 19, 2003 [Order n° 03-06](#) (published in the JO. No 44 on July 23, 2003) and the August 2, 2005 [Executive Decree No 05-277 published in the Journal officiel No 54 on August 7, 2005](#). The Order lays down the definitions and processes related to the acquisition of the right to the trademark, the registration and the publication. Trademarks are protected for a ten-year period, renewable indefinitely.

Trademarks must be registered at the Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property, (Institut National Algerien de la Propriete Industrielle, INAPI). Applicants domiciliated abroad may be represented by an agent to perform the registration procedure in accordance with procedures laid down by the decree.

The filer must:

- prior to completing an application for registration of the mark, must research to determine possible similarities that may exist between the mark to be registered and those previously registered.
- activate an online account on the INAPI website
- complete an online trademark application form
- choose the list of products and services set in accordance with the "Nice classification"
- provide proof of payment of the filing and publication taxes.

The owners of the trademark may assert their rights and exercise their prerogatives through industrial property agents.

A valid registered trademark gives the holder the right of ownership over that trademark for period of ten (10) years. This right grants the right to concede the trademark use or transfer with a prior authorization by the owner. (source: KPMG)

[The February 06, 2005 Law no 05-03](#) regulates the seeds and plant variety protection. This Act determines the conditions of approval, production, multiplication and marketing of seeds and seedlings used in plant production as well as plant variety protection. The details can be found at:

<https://www.joradp.dz/FTP/jo-francais/2005/F2005011.pdf>.

Section IX. Import Procedures

All imported food and goods are subject to a conformity control at the ports of entry. A joint team composed of inspectors from the Ministries of Commerce, Agriculture, Customs, and Transport perform this control in accordance with the terms and conditions under the provisions of the January 30, 1990 [Executive Decree No 90-39](#), (published in JO. No 05 on January 31, 1990) as amended and supplemented.

The control is performed before the clearance of the imported products on the basis of a file presented to the inspectorate at the borders by the importer or by his duly authorized representative. The file includes:

- the declaration of the importation of the product, duly filled in by the importer
- a certified copy of the extract from the trade register
- a certified copy of the invoice
- the original of any other document required by the regulations in force and relating to the conformity of the imported products. (See Section VIII).

A certificate of conformity and quality as well as a certificate of origin are mandatory for all imported products along with the customs documents (bill of lading and commercial invoice). The regulation regarding the conformity control at the borders can be found at:

<https://www.commerce.gov.dz/reglementation/decret-executif-n-deg-05-467>

Phytosanitary certificates are mandatory for all food products. Certificate of fumigation and Isotopic are mandatory for the grains.

Pesticides are also subject to import authorization prior to import. The Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate at the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT) delivers this import authorization. More information can be found at: <http://madrp.gov.dz/agriculture/services-phytosanitaire/procedures/>

[The May 7, 2015 Order](#) (published in the JO. No 44 on August 19, 2015) modifies and completes [the July 14, 2002 Order](#), (published in the JO. No 62 on September 15, 2002). The latter establishes the list of plant varieties requiring authorization prior to importation.

Animal products or products with animal origin are subject to import authorization prior to import. The Veterinary Services at the Ministry of Agriculture delivers this import authorization. (see section VIII).

A sanitary, veterinary inspection is required for live animals and products with animal origin upon arrival at border posts. November 16, 1991's [Executive Decree No 91-452](#) (published in the JO. No 59 on November 20, 1991) lists all the animals and products of animal origin requiring the sanitary, veterinary inspection and the sanitary control. (See section VIII)

More information can be found at: <http://www.minagri.dz/veterinaire.html>.

Imported goods are subject to; custom duties, value added tax (VAT), and some local taxes.

Effective January 1, 2017, the Finance Law increased VAT rates from seven (07) to nine (09) percent and seventeen (17) to nineteen (19) percent for agricultural and non- agricultural products. The full list of products can be found at <<http://www.joradp.dz/FTP/JO-FRANCAIS/2016/F2016077.pdf>>.

Algeria applies the Harmonized Nomenclature and Classification system. The maximum rate for customs duties has been lowered to 30 percent. There are three categories for duties: 5 percent for raw materials, 15 percent for semi-processed products, and 30 percent for consumer-ready or high-value products. A new temporary safeguard duty has been added to the above-mentioned taxes and VAT for 1,095 products. (see Food laws section above).

A domestic consumption tax applies to about 20 products that are considered luxury goods (tariff code chapters 08, 09, 16, and 22). Information on tariffs can be found at:

<http://www.douane.gov.dz/Consulter%20le%20tarif%20douanier.html>

As of January 1, 2014, Letters of Credit approved by Algerian banks or documentary collection are the only means of payment for imported goods. This is in accordance with Section 81 of the 2014 Finance Law.

Payment for goods requires an invoice with a bank domiciliation and customs clearance documents.

Effective October 22, 2017, a new requirement to regulate imports of products destined for resale as is, was introduced by the Bank of Algeria (BoA). The new instruction applies to non-agricultural as well as, agricultural products. Any imported goods for resale requires the importer to deposit 120% of the import transaction value with an Algerian Bank, 30 days prior to shipment. In addition, a certificate of free movement of the product in the country of origin or provenance is required for the products destined for resale as is. (see below).

Effective January 1, 2018, banking domiciliation's applications must include the following documents:

- a) Sanitary and Phytosanitary certificates delivered to the importer by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development regarding imports of (bananas, wheat, barley, garlic, beef and fish except sardines).
- b) Prior technical authorization delivered by the Ministry of Commerce related to the import of cosmetics and toxic products
- c) Certificate of free movement of the product in the country of origin or provenance, established by a duly empowered authority in the exporting country and / or of origin attesting that the goods to be imported except (bananas, wheat, barley, beef, garlic and fish), are actually and freely marketed on their territory in accordance with the provisions under the article 12 of the May 06, 2012 executive decree no12-203 relating to the applicable rules for the products security.
The certificate is delivered by chambers of commerce. A copy of the certificate is available in the appendix.

[The Decree 18-212 published in Journal Officiel No 50 on August 15, 2018](#) exempts the following raw materials and products destined for animal feed from VAT: -barley (tariff heading 10.03), corn, (tariff heading 10.05), bran, (tariff code 23.02), starch residues and similar residues (tariff heading 23-03), preparations used for feeding animals (tariff heading 23-09). Import licenses are no longer needed.

Information about Algerian Customs requirements can be found (in French) at <http://www.douane.gov.dz/>

All the Official Journals (Journal Officiel) (JO.) can be found at the website: www.joradp.dz.

Section X: Trade Facilitation

Algeria is not a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and accordingly has not signed onto the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

In line with the strategy to meet the globalization challenges, the liberalization of international trade and the promotion of investment, Customs administration initiated a modernization program to facilitate customs procedures. This program includes reduction of customs clearances times as well as customs fees. To reduce clearance times, Customs allows several procedures.

The deposit of the manifest before the arrival of the cargo; the consignee can submit his custom declaration upon docking of the cargo after filling the form by computer before the arrival of the cargo. In addition, to facilitate the transit, the consignee can subscribe a simplified transit declaration which includes only the information given on the bill of lading.

Clearance from home and control on site; the exporter wishing to ship goods abroad can complete the export formalities and submit the custom declaration at the closest customs office to his company which will treat it. After verification of the containers, packages and means of transport are sealed, which avoids other verifications. The border controller will note the passage of the containers in view of the detailed export declaration. This procedure can be applied to imports of some types of products that cannot be checked at the point of entry.

Statute of authorized economic operator (consignee); a measure instituted by the Finance Act 2010's Article 32 and included in article 81 ter of the Customs code. This statute provides the consignee facilitations of the customs clearance procedures.

In addition to the above mentioned, other facilitations and detailed information of the customs facilitations are listed in the link below: <https://www.douane.gov.dz/spip.php?article70&lang=fr>
Information on customs fees can be found at: <https://www.douane.gov.dz/spip.php?article68&lang=fr>

As mentioned above, per the Algerian regulation, all imported food and goods are subject to a conformity control at the ports of entry by a joint team composed of inspectors from the Ministries of Commerce, Agriculture, and Customs. Upon arrival, the type of product determines who would inspect first. For agricultural products, Ministry of Agriculture would do the first inspection; - the veterinary inspector would inspect any animal or animal product and dairy products; -plant protection would inspect the plant products). Then, the Ministry of commerce would proceed to the inspection for the quality and labeling followed by the Customs. However, if any discrepancies occur, the first inspection would hold the shipment.

By regulation, containers can stay 21 days at the seaport while clearance is processed. Then, the containers will be transferred to a dry port waiting for the issue to be solved. Detained shipments can sometime last one month or more depending on the kind of issue.

APPENDIX I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts

Ministry of Agriculture

Address: 12 Avenue Colonel Amirouche, Algiers

Phone: (213-23)-50-32-38

Fax: (213-23)-50-31-17

Website: <http://madrp.gov.dz/>

National Institute for Plant Protection (INPV)/ Ministry of Agriculture

Address :12, Avenue des Frères Ouadek Hacén Badi, EL HARRACH - BP.80 El-Harrach

Phone: 213 (0) 23 82 88 85

Fax: 213 (0) 23 82 88 96

Website : <http://www.inpv.edu.dz/>

National Center for Control & Certification of Seeds & Plants

(Centre National de Contrôle et Certification des Semences et Plants) (CNCC)

Address : BP119, 6 Bis Hacén Badi, EL HARRACH - BP.80 El-Harrach

Phone: 213 (0) 21-52-12-13

Fax: 213 (0) 21-52-99-00

Website: <http://cncc.dz/contact/>

Ministry of Commerce

Address : Cité Zerhouni Mokhtar El Mohamadia (Ex : Les Bananiers)

Phone : (213-21) 89-00-74/75...85

Fax : (213-21) 89-00-34

E-mail : info@mincommerce.gov.dz

Website: www.mincommerce.gov.dz

Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging /Ministry of Commerce

(Centre Algérien du Contrôle de la Qualité et de l'Emballage) (C.A.C.Q.E)

Adresse : RN N °05 El Alia Bab Ezzouar

Fax : 021.24.30.11

Site Web : www.cacqe.org

Algerian Chamber of Commerce & Industry / Ministry of Commerce

Tél : 021 66 58 95

Mobile : 0770 68 69 64

Fax : 021 66 58 96

Site web: www.cci-mezghena.dz

E-mail: contact@cci-mezghena.dz / ccimezghenaalger@gmail.com

Algerian Customs

Address: 19 rue du Docteur Saadane, Alger

Phone: (213-21)-72-59-59

Fax: (213-21)-72-59-75

Website: <http://www.douane.gov.dz/>

Algerian Institute for Industrial Property
(Institut National Algerien de la Propriete Industrielle) (INAPI)

Address: 42, rue Larbi BenMhidi, Algiers

Phone: (213-21)73-57-74

Fax: (213-21) 73-60-84

Website: www.inapi.org

National Office of Copyright /Ministry of Communication & Culture
(Office National des Droits d'Auteurs et des Droits Voisins) (ONDA)
Ministère de la Communication et de la Culture

Address: 49 rue Adberrezak Hamla,16000 Bologhine, Algiers

Phone: (213) 23 15 00 70/84

Fax: (213) 23 15 00 72

Website: <http://www.onda.dz/>

APPENDIX II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts

Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry: <http://www.caci.com.dz/>

World Trade Center Algeria: <http://www.wtcalgeria.com>

The Official Gazette of the Republic of Algeria (Official Journal):
<http://www.joradp.dz/HFR/Index.htm>.

Algerian Organization for Accreditation (ALGERAC)/Ministry of Industry

Website: <http://algerac.dz>

KPMG Algeria SPA

Address: 94, Zone du Centre des Affaires, Bab Ezzouar, Alger, Algérie

Website: KPMG.DZ

U.S. Embassy / USDA- Foreign Agricultural Service:

Local Address: 5, Chemin Bachir Ibrahimi, El Biar, Alger, Algerie

Phone: (213-770) 08-2111/2112

Fax: (213-23) 47-17-78

E-mail: AgAlgiers@fas.usda.gov

Website: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/>

U.S. Commercial Service in Algeria: <http://export.gov/algeria>

American Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.amcham-algeria.org>

U.S. Algeria Business Council: <http://www.us-algeria.org>

Attachments:

No Attachments