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Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

This report provides information on the export certificates required by the Government of Croatia. This is an annual report that was updated in November 2022.

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Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service in Zagreb, Croatia, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, the 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

All sections of the previous FAIRS Export Certificate Report have been updated to reflect EU certification requirements at the time this report was written. For the most recent update, also check the referenced website of the agencies issuing the certificates.

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

Croatia as a member of the European Union follows EU directives and regulations. It is therefore recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Export Certificate Report produced by the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium:

[EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#)

or search:

[GAIN Reports](#)

The document requirements for exporting animals, plants, and food to the EU are extensive. The [EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) gives an overview of the required EU health certificates for products imported into or transiting through the EU. It should be noted, however, that model certificates may not be available for products that have never been exported to the EU before or if the relevant U.S. authority is not in a position to provide the guarantees as required by the EU. References to the EU legislation that forms the basis for the health certificate are also provided in the [EU-27 FAIRS Report](#).

While certification requirements are developed at the EU level, the member state (MS) inspection services are responsible for the enforcement of EU legislation through inspection of imported goods and the corresponding certificates.

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

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Products of animal origin	Health Certificates	Attestation is dependent on the product. Detailed attestation can be found in the model certificates available at EUR-Lex , for details see EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report .	Food Safety	Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Veterinary and Sanitary Inspections.

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Composite products	Health Certificate	Regulation (EU) 2019/625 defines composite products.	Food Safety	Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Veterinary and Sanitary Inspections.
Plant products that can introduce pests	Phytosanitary Certificate	APHIS inspectors, attest to specific requirements of EU legislation by making additional declarations in the relevant phytosanitary certificate boxes. These declarations are specific for different plant species, and they are subject to change, thus the shipper needs to check for the most recent change before export.	Plant Health	Ministry of Agriculture through State Inspectorate's Phytosanitary Inspection.
Various plant products	Other than Phytosanitary Certificate. For details see the EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report	e.g. aflatoxin levels in almonds: Use of the Pre-Export Checklist Program Certificate (the PEC Certificate) is not mandatory but the EU regulation mandates that consignments with this certificate are controlled for aflatoxin levels at less than 1%. USDA/AMS is the competent authority for the PEC program.	Food Safety and Quality	Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Phytosanitary and Sanitary Inspections.

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

Import requirements for animals and animal products are harmonized across the EU. The EU must recognize a country as eligible to export a particular animal or animal product. The EU has lists of approved establishments based on submissions from U.S. government agencies. Only those products processed at approved establishments may enter the EU. The U.S. agencies involved in developing official establishment lists are the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Approved establishments may be subject to EU inspection. All EU-approved establishment lists are available at [Third Country Establishments](#) and the links for the U.S. agencies can be found in Section V. under competent authorities. The EU imposes several general requirements for all veterinary certificates. The U.S. regulatory agencies which issue health certificates (FSIS, APHIS, and Agricultural Market Service - AMS) have all included pertinent requirements in their export libraries. Certificates must be issued before the consignments to which they relate are released for commerce.

The EU import requirements for plants and plant products also have been harmonized and are published in a single directive. Unlike veterinary products, there is only one model certificate for all plant products

per international regulations following the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (see: [IPPC](#) and [IPPC Export Certification](#)). Phytosanitary certificates are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to specific requirements of EU legislation by making additional declarations in the relevant boxes.

[Regulation \(EU\) 2019/625](#) defines composite products as foodstuffs intended for human consumption that contain processed products of animal origin and ingredients of plant origin. Composite products include a wide variety of products, including cheesecakes, high protein food supplements, pizza, and lasagnas. U.S. exports of “composite products” continue to be restricted due to burdensome certification requirements. While the U.S. is eligible to ship hormone-free meat, dairy products, egg products, and fishery products separately, it is often not possible to ship the composite products that combine these eligible ingredients.

Exporters should be aware that in parallel with the aforementioned changes to the composite product certificate that was triggered by an update of the EU’s Animal Health Law, the EU also made changes to the categories of composite products that require U.S. Government-issued health certificates. The new system is no longer based on the percentage of ingredients of animal product in the final product, as was the case until April 21, 2021. The current system that went into effect on April 21, 2021 establishes three categories of composite products: (1) non-shelf stable composite products, (2) shelf stable composite products that contain meat products and (3) shelf stable composite products that do not contain meat products. All processed products of animal origin must be sourced from EU-approved establishments. The EU continues to require composite product certificates for all non-shelf stable products and for shelf stable composite products with a meat ingredient

For shelf stable products not containing meat, no certificates signed by the U.S. Government are required. For these products, the representative of the importer must declare that the goods meet the relevant EU requirements, using the “Private Attestation” model form [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2235](#).

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

Whenever the EU publishes model veterinary certificates for use by eligible third country suppliers, U.S. regulatory agencies will cross-out or delete any statement that refers to health situations that are not relevant to the United States. Certificates for plants and plant products are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to the specific requirements of EU legislation with the necessary declarations in the space provided on the phytosanitary certificate.

Section IV. Government Certificate’s Legal Entry Requirements

The original version of the certificate must accompany consignments at the point of entry into the EU. Each shipment should be accompanied by an original certificate; that is, certificates cannot apply to multiple shipments. Certificates must normally be drawn up in the language of the country of dispatch (English for the United States) and the Member State (MS) in which the border inspection takes place and the final destination. Member States may agree to accept certificates in another official EU language other than their own.

For the Croatian market and border crossings, certificates must be in the official language of the Republic of Croatia, which is Croatian, as well as the MS where the border inspection occurs, if the product is not exported directly to the Republic of Croatia.

All certificates can be found in Croatian on the EU Official Journal website ([EUR-Lex](#)) under the relevant regulation.

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

There are no additional Croatian certificates (other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals.

U.S. Regulatory Agencies

The U.S. issuing agencies are identified by their acronyms. Following is a list of these agencies and a link to the relevant pages on their websites.

AMS: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

- AMS Dairy Program-EU Dairy and Composite Product Certification Programs
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/dairy-exports/eu-dairy-exports>
- Certification for Eggs and Egg Products
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/eggs-egg-products>
- Certification for Honey
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/honey>
- Certification for Seeds for Sprouting
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-announces-seed-sprouting-export-certification-program>

APHIS: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA

- International Animal Export Regulations
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/>
- International Animal Products Export Regulations
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/>
- Plant Export Services
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/SA_Export

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

<https://www.fda.gov/food/food-imports-exports/exporting-food-products-united-states>

FSIS: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA Export Requirements for the European Union:

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/import-export-library/european-union>

NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/content/export-certification>

Croatian Competent Authorities

Croatian State Inspectorate (all inspection services, e.g. veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary)

Šubićeva 29,
10 000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel: +385 1 23 75 100

e-mail: pisarnica.dirh@dirh.hr

<https://inspektorat.gov.hr/>

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Agriculture

Grada Vukovara 78
10000 Zagreb

Tel. +385 1 6106 111

Fax. +385 1 6109 201

Email: pisarnica01-MP@mps.hr

<https://poljoprivreda.gov.hr/>

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Agriculture

Planinska ulica 2a,
10000 Zagreb

Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate

Tel. +385 1 6106 111

Fax. +385 1 6109 201

Email: uprava.veterinarstva@mps.hr

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Health

Ksaver 200a
10 000 Zagreb

Tel. +385 1 4607 555

Fax. +385 1 4677 076

<https://zdravstvo.gov.hr/>

Croatian EFSA Focal Point

Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food
I. Gundulića 36b,
31000 Osijek
Croatia

Tel: +385 31 227 600

Fax: +385 31 214 901

e-mail: cs@hapih.hr

<https://www.hapih.hr/about-us/>

Appendix I. Direct Hyperlink, Electronic Copy, Scanned Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

There are no additional Croatian certificates (Other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals for the time being.

Attachments:

No Attachments