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Export Certificate Report

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**Report Highlights:**

[CORRECTED] This report highlights certification requirements for food and agricultural products exported to Canada and supplements the FAIRS Country Report. Please note: The original version of this 2022 report, published July 13, included incorrect information on Food and Drug Administration (FDA) certificates for export (i.e., Certificates of Exportability). This updated version includes information on the correct FDA certificates for export (i.e., Certificate to a Foreign Government).

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This report was prepared by the Ottawa Office of Agricultural Affairs for U.S. exporters of 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 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 highlights export certificates issued by U.S. government authorities to comply with Canadian import standards and regulations. It is an update to the 2021 Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Export Certificate Report. This is not intended as a compendium of Canadian import requirements, but rather as a supplement to the most recent FAIRS Country Report. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, this information is provided only as guidance, because requirements may have changed since this report's preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these requirements was not available.

FAS/Canada strongly recommends U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's [Automated Import Reference System \(AIRS\)](#) that serves as a step-by-step guide on Canadian importing requirements. As a good business practice, U.S. companies should consult with their Canadian customers to ensure products meet Canadian import requirements. U.S. Exporters need to acknowledge final import approval of any product is subject to the importing country's rules and regulations as interpreted by border officials at the time of product entry.

**Section I. Export Certificate Matrix:**

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Purpose/ Attestation	Issuing Authority	Authority Requiring Certificate
All U.S.- Origin Products Eligible for Preferential Treatment Under USMCA	Certification of Origin  [Note: The United States-Mexico- Canada Agreement (USMCA) does not follow a prescribed format.]	To claim preferential tariff treatment	Importer, Exporter, or Producer can make the certification	Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)
Meat and Poultry	<a href="#">Certificate for Export of Meat and Poultry Products to Canada</a>  Form <a href="#">9135-3 and 9135-3A</a>	Product Safety and Wholesomeness	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
Certain Products of Meat Origin  (e.g., Broth, Flavor, or Extract)	Food & Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) Certificate to a Foreign Government  <a href="#">CFSAN eCATS</a>	[ <b>Corrected August 3</b> ] Product meets U.S. Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act Requirements	FDA	CFIA
Egg Products	<a href="#">Egg Products Export Certificate of Wholesomeness</a>  <a href="#">Form 9060-5EP</a>	Wholesomeness	FSIS	CFIA
Egg Products	<a href="#">Letterhead Certificate for Unpasteurized Eggs</a>  <a href="#">Letterhead Certificate for Pasteurized Eggs</a>	Veterinary Health Attestation	FSIS	CFIA

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Purpose/ Attestation	Issuing Authority	Authority Requiring Certificate
Processed Egg and Egg Products	<a href="#">Processed Egg and Egg Products Export Verification Certificate</a>  <a href="#">LPS-234</a>	Wholesomeness	AMS	CFIA
Bison (Buffalo)	<a href="#">USDA Beef Export Verification (EV) Program Product Conformity Attestation on Shipping Documentation</a>	To attest to eligibility to export bison to Canada	AMS	CFIA
Pet Food	<a href="#">Veterinary Export Certificate for Heat-Processed, Shelf-Stable Pet Foods, Treats &amp; Compound Chews</a>	U.S. origin and veterinary health attestations	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	CFIA
Pet Food	<a href="#">Veterinary Sanitary Certificate for Export of Unprocessed (Raw) Pet Foods from an Approved Facility to Canada</a>	U.S. origin and veterinary health attestations	APHIS	CFIA
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Specialty Crops Program (SC) Export Form Certificate  Forms <a href="#">SC-205</a> and <a href="#">SC-205-1</a>	Grading and Quality	AMS	CFIA
Live Animals, Honeybees	<a href="#">Animal Health Export Certificate</a>  <a href="#">VS Form 16-4</a>	Animal Health	APHIS	CFIA

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Purpose/ Attestation	Issuing Authority	Authority Requiring Certificate
Plant and Plant Products	<a href="#">Phytosanitary Certificate</a>  <a href="#">PPQ Form 572</a> <a href="#">PPQ Form 577</a> <a href="#">PPQ Form 578</a> <a href="#">PPQ Form 579</a>	Plant Health, Freedom from Pests	APHIS	CFIA
Fish and Seafood	<a href="#">National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Seafood Inspection Program</a>  <a href="#">APHIS Aquatic Animal Health Export Certificate</a>  <a href="#">Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Export Permit</a>	Sanitation, Grading, Food Safety, Wholesomeness, Animal Health, Eligibility of Species	NOAA, APHIS, FWS	CFIA, CBSA, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

## Section II. Regulations and Types of Export Certificates

### All Products: USMCA Certification of Origin

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is a trilateral agreement among Canada, Mexico, and the United States under which most products enter Canada duty free. To obtain this preferential treatment, a product must be accompanied by a certification of origin made by the importer, exporter, or the producer of the product. U.S. exporters must validate that the food products they are shipping to Canada qualify for duty free treatment. All exporters may review treatment of their products under USMCA by locating the specific rules of origin treatments, which are described by chapter starting on page 18 of [Annex 4-B](#) of the USMCA text.

While the certification of origin need not follow a prescribed format, each certification must include nine data elements specified in USMCA Annex 5-A (see page 16 of USMCA [Chapter 5](#)). The certification of origin may be completed and submitted electronically and may be signed with an electronic or digital signature. Although, most U.S. products are duty free this should not be confused with custom clearance and the federal goods and services tax (GST) which is 5%. In addition, in certain provinces there may be a provincial sales tax that may be assessed.

For multiple shipments of identical goods, shippers may include a previously signed certification of origin for a “[blanket period](#)” of up to 12 months. Additional guidance and information is available on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection [website](#). USMCA-related questions and concerns can be addressed to Customs and Border Protection ([USMCA@CBP.DHS.gov](mailto:USMCA@CBP.DHS.gov)).

The U.S. Census Bureau recommends that certifiers identifying more than the first six digits of an HS code on their certification documentation should use the Canadian HS codes, which can be found on this [CBSA webpage](#) or CFIA [AIRS](#). While the first six digits of an HS code are the same for Canada, Mexico and the United States, the last four to six digits are unique to each country and will vary slightly from the U.S. codes. Since U.S. export shipments are inspected by the CBSA, it is important for U.S. companies to use Canadian HS codes to minimize delays or misinterpretations at the border.

Here are some tips for U.S. certifiers when generating a USMCA certification of origin:

- **Tip:** The HS tariff schedule is set up where the less processed foods like fresh foods are listed in the earlier chapters and the more processed foods are listed in the later chapters (e.g., vegetables are in chapter 7 and cereal preparations are in chapter 19).
- **Tip:** If required to provide an 8-12 digit classification number, then identify and enter the **Canadian Tariff Classification Number**. **Do not** use the U.S. 8-12 digit classification number.
- **Tip:** U.S. companies exporting goods eligible for preferential tariff treatment to Canada should contact their export sales partners to confirm the certification of origin procedure to be used under USMCA.
- **Tip:** U.S. exporters should review trade partners’ certification of origin documents to ensure the data provided meets USMCA requirements.

Assistance is available through local [State Departments of Agriculture](#) through agricultural [State and Regional Trade Groups](#) (SRTGs). Exporters in the Food Export USA SRTG regions may [contact the Food Export helpline](#).



## **A. Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products**

The USDA's FSIS is responsible for certification of all fresh, frozen, and packaged meat, poultry, and processed egg products. More information on the export requirements for Canada are available [here](#).

### **A.1. Meat and Poultry**

The USDA FSIS is responsible for certification of meat, poultry, and processed egg products. Exporters are encouraged to confirm product export requirements on the FSIS Export Library webpage for [meat and poultry products](#), which contains information on eligible and ineligible products for certification, as well as slaughter, processing, labelling, marking, and all other documentation requirements.

FSIS Forms 9135-3 and 9135-3A, Official Meat Inspection Certificate for Export of Meat and Poultry Products to Canada, certify that U.S. meat and poultry exports to Canada meet the eligibility, safety, and wholesomeness requirements laid out in the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations for imports of meat and poultry from the United States. Additional information can be found on the [FSIS Procedures, Requirements & Exporter Responsibilities for Canada webpage](#). (Note: FSIS Forms 9135-3 and 9135-3A must be signed by an official Veterinarian.)

- **Tip:** Your shipment may be detained, returned, or destroyed by CBSA if the shipment export certificate number (on the original export certificate) does not match the number used on the export certificate stickers adhered to individual containers.

### **A.2. Certain Products of Meat Origin**

On May 14, 2020, CFIA published guidance for broths, flavors and/or extracts manufactured in FDA regulated facilities (instead of USDA facilities). As of October 31, 2020, exporters now require an FDA Certificate to a Foreign Government or a USDA Official Meat Inspection (OMIC) to accompany manufactured products in FDA regulated facilities. Please see FAS/Canada GAIN Report [CA2020-0054](#) for additional information, including a list of product HS codes to which this certificate applies.

### **A.3. Meat and Poultry Label Verification**

Exporters of meat and poultry products should read the [Labeling Requirements](#) section of the Export Library closely. Certain labels applied to U.S. meat and poultry exports must be approved by FSIS. Labels that deviate from U.S. domestic requirements must be submitted, along with supporting documentation verifying Canadian government acceptance of the deviation, to the FSIS Labeling and Program Delivery Staff (LPDS). LPDS recommends U.S. exporters obtain an e-authentication account

and process label approval requests through the online [Label Submission and Approval System \(LSAS\)](#). However, paper applications for label approval submissions ([FSIS Form 7234-1](#)) may be mailed to:

**USDA, FSIS, OPPD, LPDD**

Labeling Distribution Unit

Stop Code 3786, Patriots Plaza III, 8-168

1400 Independence Ave, SW

Washington, DC 20250-3700

For additional information, please contact LPDS at 1-800-233-3935, ext. 2 or visit [askFSIS](#).

**A.4. Eggs and Processed Egg Products**

Eggs and egg products are import controlled products and subject to a tariff rate quota (TRQs) system in Canada. U.S. exporters must work with a Canadian importer that has available quota to legally import eggs. Requirements for U.S. egg product exports to Canada may vary from state to state, and U.S. producers are urged to review [the requirements](#) before shipping. FSIS inspectors issue an Egg Product Export Certificate of Wholesomeness ([FSIS Form 9060-5EP](#)) for each export shipment.

[Corrected August 3] For processed products, the American Marketing Service (AMS) may perform onsite verification and issue export certificates on a fee for service basis. To apply for this Further Processed Egg Program, exporters may complete the [application](#) and email to [ev.export@usda.gov](mailto:ev.export@usda.gov) For smaller amounts of egg products (such as imitation egg products, frozen egg patties, and frozen omelets) manufacturers may voluntarily participate in the [Processed Egg and Egg Products Export Verification \(PEEPEV\) Program](#). USDA processed egg and egg products export certificate (Form LPS-234) is used to verify that the processed egg products and hard-cooked eggs are wholesome for export. A list of companies approved to export these products to Canada is available [here](#).

For questions concerning shipments of FDA-regulated products containing eggs that were previously certified by FSIS, contact FSIS at 1-855-444-9904 or by e-mail at [importexport@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:importexport@fsis.usda.gov).

**A.5. Ready-to-Eat Products - EV Program**

This program was initially established for closed-faced sandwiches exported to Canada. Canadian requirements dictate that closed-faced sandwiches be produced under a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and *Listeria monocytogenes* control plans. Only those [manufacturing establishments](#) participating in this EV program are eligible to export to Canada. For more information on the EV program, please refer to the [Microbiological Testing Program for RTE products](#).

## **B. Bison - USDA Export Verification (EV) Program**

Meat and meat products derived from bison (or buffalo) are eligible for export to Canada. However, Canada applies the same bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) requirements for these products as applied for beef and beef products. Since U.S. BSE regulations do not apply to bison, meat and meat products derived from bison must be raised and produced under an approved [AMS Export Verification \(EV\) program](#). Only those suppliers meeting the requirements of the EV program are eligible to export specified products to Canada. Additional information about the [EV program](#) and a [list of EV approved establishments](#) can be found on the AMS website.

## **C. Pet Foods**

### **C.1. Veterinary Export Certificate for Processed, Shelf-Stable Pet Foods, Treats, and Compound Chews**

As of April 13, 2021, the CFIA no longer issues import permits for Raw/BARF/Minimally Processed Pet Food/Pet Treats from U.S. origin pet food facilities with the exception Thermally Processed Pet Food. Export Certificates for Canada are issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) and specific [language](#) is required. For the latest requirements, restrictions and certificates for APHIS-regulated pet foods exported to Canada, please visit [APHIS International Regulations \(IREgs\) site](#) including specific requirements for [thermally processed products](#).

### **C.2. Veterinary Sanitary Certificate for Export of Unprocessed (Raw) Pet Foods from an Approved Facility to Canada**

CFIA defines biologically appropriate raw food (BARF) diets as “biologically appropriate raw food or bones and raw food diets.” A typical BARF diet is made up of 60-80 percent raw meaty bones, that is bones with about 50 percent meat (e.g., chicken necks, backs, and wings) and 20-40 percent fruits and vegetables, offal, meat, eggs, or dairy. CFIA requires all facilities involved in the production of raw, unprocessed BARF pet foods or diets to be inspected and approved by APHIS VS prior to issuance of the APHIS certificate and export to Canada. For more information on how to obtain facility approval, U.S. companies should contact their [local VS Service Center](#).

For more information on the procedures and requirements for exporting animal products, or to obtain a sanitary certificate for an animal product, exporters should contact the [VS Field Office](#) covering the area from which the product will be exported, the area in which the exporter office is located, or the area in which the product is manufactured.

## **D. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable - Inspection Certificate**

All fruits and vegetables imported into Canada must meet the requirements of the [Safe Food for Canadians Regulations](#). Apples, onions and potatoes require an inspection certificate indicating minimum Canadian import requirements for quality, labelling, and packaging are met. However, there

could be phytosanitary/plant health certificate requirements as well, depending on the commodity, state of origin, and provincial destination. More information on the requirements for importing fruits and vegetables is available on this [CFIA website](#) and the [AMS Specialty Crop Export Verification and Certification](#). Please contact the nearest [AMS Inspection Division field office](#) for more information or to request an export certificate.

The importation of leafy green vegetables from the United States are limited to those growers and suppliers that have met the Leafy Green Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) food safety guidelines and are a signatory to the California Leafy Green Products Handler Marketing Agreement. Import requirements for leafy greens from Arizona and California are found on [this CFIA webpage](#).

Information on exemptions from U.S. inspection and certification under the [Export Apple Act\Grape and Plum Act](#) for shipments to Canada.

#### **E. Live Animals and Live Reproductive Organisms - Animal Health Export Certificate**

APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) issues health certificates certifying the herd and animal health status for live animals and live reproductive organisms exported from the United States. Depending on the type of animal, additional tests and vaccinations may be required.

Visit the [APHIS IRegs website](#) for the most up-to-date information on export requirements and restrictions related to live animal exports to Canada.

#### **Travelling with and Shipment of Pets to Canada**

Although the scope of this report is largely focused on commercial shipments, FAS/Canada periodically receives calls from U.S. visitors traveling with or shipping their pets to Canada. While, certification is not required for cats or dogs, CBSA may request vaccination records. In addition, inspection fees and quarantine may be required for certain pets. Visitors are encouraged to work closely with their veterinarian to ensure necessary documents are prepared before traveling. The latest information related to pets entering Canada is on the [CFIA webpage](#).

#### **F. Plant and Plant Products Phytosanitary Certificate**

APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is responsible for issuing the phytosanitary certificate attesting that plants or plant products are free from quarantine pests, practically free from other injurious pests, and conform to the current phytosanitary regulations of Canada. For more information, please visit the [APHIS PPQ Plant Health Export Information](#).

**Section III. Specific Declarations and Attestations Required on Export Certificates**

[Corrected August 3] In some cases, there may be a need to include specific declarations and attestations. For the latest, please check with the respective authorizing government office. See below for the nearest contact.

Name of Certificate	Issuing Authority	U.S. Contact
Certificate for Export of Meat and Poultry Products to Canada	FSIS	<a href="#">Export Guidance</a> <a href="#">Food Safety and Inspection Service District Offices</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:MPHotline.fsis@usda.gov">MPHotline.fsis@usda.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-674-6854
Export Certificate - Bison EV Program	AMS	<a href="#">Export Verification Program</a>  AMS Quality Assurance Division E-mail: <a href="mailto:QAD.BusinessOps@ams.usda.gov">QAD.BusinessOps@ams.usda.gov</a> Phone: 501-312-2962
Export Certificate – Ready-To-Eat (RTE)	AMS	<a href="#">AMS Microbiological Testing Program</a>  National Science Laboratories E-mail: <a href="mailto:NationalScienceLaboratories@ams.usda.gov">NationalScienceLaboratories@ams.usda.gov</a> Phone: 704-867-3873
Export Certificate - Table Eggs Program &	AMS	To qualify, exporting processing plants are expected to have passed specific laboratory tests.  <a href="#">List of Plants Approved to Export Table Eggs to Canada</a> Phone: 770-519-9572
Export Certificate - PEEPEV Program	AMS	<a href="#">Further Processed Egg Products Verification Program</a> <a href="#">Verification (PEEPEV) Program</a>  Quality Assessment Division, Auditing <a href="mailto:EV.Export@usda.gov">EV.Export@usda.gov</a> Phone: 501-766-4782
National Organic Program	AMS	<a href="#">National Organic Program</a>  <a href="mailto:NOP.Guidance@usda.gov">NOP.Guidance@usda.gov</a> Phone: 202-720-3252

Name of Certificate	Issuing Authority	U.S. Contact
Export Certificate - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Certificate	AMS	<a href="#">Specialty Crops Inspection Contacts</a>
Animal Health Export Certificate VS Form 16-4	APHIS	<a href="#">APHIS IRegs</a>  <a href="#">Veterinary Services Service Center Directory</a> Animal Exports Call Center: 301-851-3300 Animals Products: <a href="mailto:asknies.products@usda.gov">asknies.products@usda.gov</a> Live Animals: <a href="mailto:VS-Live.Animals_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov">VS-Live.Animals_Import.Permits@aphis.usda.gov</a>
Phytosanitary Certificate for Plants and Plant Products	APHIS	<a href="#">Plant Export Information</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:PPQExportServices@usda.gov">PPQExportServices@usda.gov</a> Phone: 301-851-2309
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Inspection Certificate	NOAA	<a href="#">NOAA Regional Offices Directory</a>
U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Certificate to a Foreign Government [Corrected August 3]	FDA	<a href="#">FDA Export Certification Contact List</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:CFSANExportCertification@fda.hhs.gov">CFSANExportCertification@fda.hhs.gov</a> Phone: 240-402-2307

## Section IV. Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

### A. All Products: USMCA Certification of Origin

The USMCA Certification of Origin is required to be submitted to CBSA at the time of import notification (at least 1 hour (highway carriers), 2 hours (rail carriers), 4 hours (air carriers), or 24 hours

(Marine carriers) in advance). The USMCA certification of origin can be applied to multiple shipments of identical products for a period of up to 12 months. The certification of origin can be supplied by an importer, exporter, or producer. Shipments with an estimated duty value of \$3,300 CAD or less [do not require](#) a USMCA certification of origin.

## **B. Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products**

See Section II B.

## **C. Bison – USDA Export Verification (EV) Program**

See Section II C. Shipping documentation (bills of lading, shipping manifests, or letters of guarantee) must contain the following information:

- Clearly identified product type and quantity
- One of the following applicable statements:
  - “Product Meets EV Program Requirements for Canada and for the EU” for finished items eligible for export.
  - “Product Meets EV Program Requirements for Canada and for the EU excluding final fabrication requirements” for products that must be further fabricated to meet all requirements prior to being eligible to export.

## **D. Pet Foods**

### **D.1. Veterinary Export Certificate for Heat-Processed, Shelf-Stable Pet Foods, Treats, and Compound Chews**

As the APHIS Veterinary Certificate for Heat-Processed, Shelf-Stable Pet Foods, Treats, and Compound Chews can cover multiple shipments within a 30-day window, original copies of the export certificate are not required upon entry. Every shipment should be accompanied by a copy of the endorsed export certificate. Each shipment imported into Canada with a Multiple Shipment Export Certificate must be accompanied by an [Importer’s Statement of Compliance](#), containing the shipment specific information. Import conditions and the information required on the Importer’s Statement of Compliance can be found in the CFIA’s [Import Policy for Pet food and Treats Containing Animal Products and By-Products](#).

### **D.2. Veterinary Sanitary Certificate for Export of Unprocessed (Raw) Pet Foods from an Approved Facility to Canada**

For APHIS Veterinary Services to certify U.S.-origin pet foods using the Veterinary Sanitary Certificate for Export of Unprocessed (Raw) Pet Foods from an Approved Facility to Canada:

- The exporter must present a valid, current [import permit](#) issued by CFIA allowing entry of the products to be exported;
- If the exporter is not the approved manufacturing facility, the exporter must provide documentation to show that the pet foods for export were manufactured in facilities approved by APHIS/VS; and

- The VS Area Office must verify that the manufacturing facility (ies) has/have been approved by VS and are listed in the APHIS internal database as being approved to export the pertinent product to Canada with a last validated inspection date in the previous 365 days.

#### **E. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable - Inspection Certificate**

Specific requirements for importation of U.S. potatoes, apples and onions are explained on [this CFIA website](#). Generally, these products must be accompanied by an AMS-issued serially numbered certificate including the language “Meets Canadian Import Requirements for Grades, Packaging, Labelling and Standard Container Size.” Shipments must be accompanied at the Canadian port of entry by an original serially numbered certificate or evidence in the form of a facsimile or a copy of an email message issued by AMS establishing that Canadian requirements for grades, packaging, and labelling are met.

#### **F. Live Animals and Live Reproductive Organisms - Animal Health Export Certificate**

For all commodities other than Aquaculture / Aquatic Animals to Canada, USDA Accredited Veterinarians may issue health certificates electronically through the online Veterinary Export Health Certification System ([VEHCS](#)). APHIS-endorsed, printed paper copies of appropriate export certificates and required additional forms must accompany the shipment at port of entry. Certain animals may only pass-through certain ports of entry. For animal-specific requirements, exporters are encouraged to consult the APHIS [IRegs website](#).

#### **G. Plant and Plant Products Phytosanitary Certificate**

Authorized certifying officials at the county, state or federal level may sign required phytosanitary certificates to accompany shipments of U.S. plants and plant materials to Canada. Exporters should consult the APHIS [Phytosanitary Export Database](#) (PExD) and CFIA [AIRS](#) system to confirm the latest requirements for products to be exported.

### **Section V. Other Export Certification/Accreditation Requirements**

#### **A. NOAA Inspection Certificate**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) [Seafood Inspection Program](#) offers a variety of professional inspection services that ensure compliance with all applicable food regulations. In addition, product quality evaluation, grading and [certification services](#) on a product lot basis are provided. Benefits of obtaining a certificate include the ability to apply official marks, such as the U.S. Grade A, Processed Under Federal Inspection (PUFI) and Lot Inspection. Additional information on certification requirements for Canada is on [this NOAA webpage](#).



## B. Products Regulated by the Food and Drug Administration

[Corrected August 3] The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issues a “Certificate to a Foreign Government” for some products destined for Canada, including certain products of meat origin that meet the applicable requirements of the FD&C Act for marketing in the United States. This certificate states, among other things, that a product (or products) may be marketed in and legally exported from the United States. FDA export certificates for food are issued at the request of a U.S. company by the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN).

For more information, contact [export certification offices within CFSAN](#) and visit the [FDA Food Export Certificates webpage](#).

## C. Organic



On June 17, 2009, the United States and Canada [jointly announced](#) an organic equivalence arrangement, the first one of its kind. The equivalence arrangement followed a review by both nations of the other’s organic certification program and a determination that products with the U.S. organic logo meeting the standard in the United States can be sold as and recognized organic in Canada, and vice versa.

Producers and processors that are certified to the [USDA National Organic Program](#) (NOP) standards by a USDA-accredited certifying agent do not have to become separately certified to the [Canadian Organic Standards](#) (COS) in order for their products to be represented as organic in Canada. Likewise, Canadian organic products certified to COS may be sold or labeled in the United States as organically produced. Both the USDA Organic seal and the Canada Organic/Biologique logo can be used on certified products from both countries. More information on the [equivalence arrangement](#) can be found on the [CFIA Organic Products webpage](#).

U.S. firms are reminded that the import and sale of organic food products in Canada are governed by the same rules and regulations that apply to non-organic food products. No distinction is made

between organic and non-organic food with regard to import requirements. Currently, all Canadian packaging and labeling, grade, and inspection regulations apply equally to organic and non-organic foods. Organic claims are required to be printed in English and French.

## **Section V1. Business Registrations and Food Licenses on Imported Food**


Those U.S. Firms shipping directly into Canada will need to register for an import license under the *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations* and exporters with no facilities in Canada. They will be considered as Non-Resident Importers (NRI). The license permits CFIA to identify both Canadian and non-Canadian NRI's their place of business should there be complaints or a recall. Before applying for the import license, exporters are directed to Revenue Canada to obtain a 9-digit [Business Number \(BN\)](#). This will take between two to six weeks. With the Canadian business number, exporters can then apply on-line for the [import license through CFIA](#).

**Appendix I. Electronic Copy of Selected Export Certificates**  
**Example, USMCA Certification of Origin**

UNITED STATES MEXICO CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA) CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN						
1. CERTIFIER TYPE (INDICATE "X")					BLANKET PERIOD (MM/DD/YYYY)	FROM:
	IMPORTER		EXPORTER	PRODUCER		TO:
2. CERTIFIER NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, AND EMAIL NAME ADDRESS COUNTRY PHONE EMAIL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER			3. EXPORTER NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, AND EMAIL NAME ADDRESS COUNTRY PHONE EMAIL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER			
4. PRODUCER NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, AND EMAIL NAME ADDRESS COUNTRY PHONE EMAIL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER			5. IMPORTER NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, AND EMAIL NAME ADDRESS COUNTRY PHONE EMAIL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER			
6. DESCRIPTION OF GOOD(S)	7. HTS	8. ORIGIN CRITERION	9. PRODUCER (YES/NO)	10. METHOD OF QUALIFICATION	11. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	
SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET(S)						
I CERTIFY THAT THE GOODS DESCRIBED IN THIS DOCUMENT QUALIFY AS ORIGINATING AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS TRUE AND ACCURATE. I ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVING SUCH REPRESENTATIONS AND AGREE TO MAINTAIN AND PRESENT UPON REQUEST OR TO MAKE AVAILABLE DURING A VERIFICATION VISIT, DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THIS CERTIFICATION						
THIS CERTIFICATE CONSISTS OF			PAGES, INCLUDING ALL ATTACHMENTS.			
12.	12a. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE			12b. COMPANY		
	12c. NAME			12d. TITLE		
	12e. DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)		12f. TELEPHONE NUMBER		12g. EMAIL	

USMCA CERTIFICATE V3

Example: FSIS Form 9135-3, Certificate

CONSIGNOR		CERTIFICATE NO. <b>US-CA-2017-</b>		
CONSIGNEE/IMPORTER		U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service		
ORIGIN COUNTRY <b>U.S.A.</b>		PORT OF LOADING	EXPORT ESTABLISHMENT: (Establishment Number)	
DESTINATION <b>CANADA</b>				
MEANS OF TRANSPORT				
SHIPPING MARKS	NUMBER/ KIND OF PACKAGES	EST. / PLANT NUMBER ON PRODUCT	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION/ SPECIES LABEL APPROVAL NUMBER	NET WEIGHT (Check one and enter net weight) <input type="checkbox"/> lb. or <input type="checkbox"/> kg.
USDA SEAL NUMBER (S) (If Applicable)				
REMARKS				
<input type="checkbox"/> I CERTIFY that the meat or meat food product 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, and / or				
<input type="checkbox"/> I CERTIFY that the poultry and poultry 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.				
BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE		NAME OF OFFICIAL (Typed) <hr/> SIGNATURE OF THE OFFICIAL		DATE SIGNED
				
FSIS FORM 9135-3 (10/17/2018)		PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE		ORIGINAL

S

**Example: Pet Food and Treats Certificate (1 of 3)**

Health Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

**VETERINARY EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR PROCESSED<sup>1</sup> PET FOOD/CHEWS/TREATS  
CONTAINING ANIMAL PRODUCTS AND BY-PRODUCTS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA TO CANADA**

Consignor (Name and Address):	Consignee (Name and Address):
Processing Plant (Name and Address) and USDA-APHIS approval number if applicable <sup>2</sup> :	<b>Description of product(s):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pet foods and/or pet treats with no bovine-origin ingredients except exempt ingredients (e.g., milk or milk products, hide-derived gelatin or collagen, and tallow with a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% by weight). <input type="checkbox"/> Pet foods and/or pet treats with non-exempt bovine-origin ingredients.
Intended end use :	<b>RESALE</b>
Port of Entry:	<b>Any Canadian Port of entry</b>
Date of Endorsement: mm/dd/yyyy	Date of Certificate Expiration <sup>3</sup> : mm/dd/yyyy
Means of transportation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Rail

Example: Pet Food and Treats Certificate (2 of 3)

Health Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned Official Veterinarian of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), certify that this office has on file a valid APHIS approval(s) of the manufacturing facility(ies) to verify the accuracy of the statements below:

1. The certified pet food and/or pet treats were processed in a facility or facilities located in the USA or Canada and authorized by the official competent veterinary authority in the country of origin to manufacture pet food containing animal products and by-products.<sup>2</sup>
  2. The certified pet foods and/or pet treats in the shipment may include the following [check all that apply]:
    - Pet foods and/or pet treats with no bovine-origin ingredients except exempt ingredients (e.g., milk or milk products, hide-derived gelatin or collagen, and tallow with a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% by weight).
    - Pet foods and/or pet treats with non-exempt bovine-origin ingredients.
  3. In the case of pet foods or pet treats containing tallow, the tallow used is protein-free with a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% by weight.
  4. In the case of pet foods or pet treats containing bovine meat, offal, or any bovine ingredients other than exempt ingredients, they meet the following requirements:
    - a. Bovine-origin raw materials [meat/offals]:
      - i. were harvested in the United States from U.S.-origin bovine or legally imported bovine that:
        - were presented live for slaughter AND
        - were not subjected to a stunning process prior to slaughter, with a device injecting compressed air or gas into the cranial cavity, or to a pithing process, and were humanely rendered unconscious prior to being bled
- AND/OR [check all that apply]:
- ii. Were legally imported from a country or countries recognized by the CFIA to be of:
    - Negligible BSE Risk Status<sup>4</sup> OR
    - Controlled BSE Risk Status [Insert name of country or countries]:  
\_\_\_\_\_ and that:
      - do not contain AND
      - have not been contaminated with bovine specified risk materials (SRMs)<sup>5</sup>.
- b. All bovine-origin rendered protein materials<sup>6</sup> originate only from countries of Negligible BSE Risk Status.
5. The certified pet foods and/or pet treats were sufficiently heat processed to ensure the destruction of pathogens that represent a risk to public or animal health.
6. Precautions were taken to prevent cross-contamination of the finished products with any animal origin product or by-product derived from animals of a lesser zoosanitary status.

**Example: Pet Food and Treats Certificate (3 of 3)**

**Health Certificate Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Page** \_\_\_\_ **of** \_\_\_\_\_

Official Seal	_____
	Signature of Official Veterinarian
	_____
	Name of Signatory (in capital letters)
_____	_____
	Title of Signatory (in capital letters)

**Notes:**

- 1: "Processed" includes only heat treated and shelf-stable products.
- 2: In the case of multiple pet food manufacturing facilities, please attach addendum with complete list of names and either addresses OR USDA-APHIS approval numbers (if applicable).
- 3: This certificate will be valid for 30 days after veterinary endorsement. Shipments of thermally processed pet food/chews/treats certified under this protocol must arrive at the Canadian port prior to the expiration date.
- 4: The CFIA follows the OIE categorization of countries for BSE Risk Status
- 5: The term SRM refers to Specified Risk Materials of bovine animals originating from countries other than Negligible BSE Risk Status. SRMs include: the skull, brain, trigeminal ganglia, eyes, spinal cord and vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae and the wings of the sacrum), the palatine tonsils from bovine animals aged 30 months and older and the distal ileum from bovine animals of all ages.
- 6: Bovine-origin animal proteins /processed proteins include those bovine-origin products produced in rendering facilities, including animal origin meals such as rendered meals, protein digests, hydrolysates, etc.

Example: SC-205 – USDA AMS Specialty Crops Program Export Form Certificate



OMB No. 0681-0143  
Exp. 06/30/2019

**SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM EXPORT FORM CERTIFICATE X-EXAMPLE**

**NOTICE TO APPLICANT/SHIPPER: APPLES and GRAPES:** This certificate must accompany export shipments and be presented to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Service (CBP). Electronically scanned version must be submitted with entry documents to CBP's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) system. If the original does not accompany shipment and is not loaded to CBP's ACE system, the shipment may be denied exit from U.S. Commerce or placed under detention.  
**SHIPMENTS to CANADA:** The original of this certificate must accompany regulated shipments and be presented to Canada Customs for entry. If the original does not accompany shipment, the shipment may be denied entry or placed under detention for failure to comply with Agriculture Canada's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Regulations.

**WARNING:** Any person who knowingly shall falsely make, issue, alter, forge, or counterfeit this certificate, or participate in any such actions, is subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

DATE CERTIFICATE ISSUED	M	M	D	D	Y	Y	COUNTRY OF DESTINATION:
APPLICANT/SHIPPER:							CITY/STATE:
RECEIVER:							CITY/PROVINCE/COUNTRY:
<input type="checkbox"/> CARRIER ID:							CERTIFICATE/WORKSHEET NUMBER:
<input type="checkbox"/> PLI No.:							

PRODUCT	NUMBER AND TYPE OF CONTAINERS	DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT (BRAND, VARIETY, SIZE, ORIGIN, ETC.)	GRADE	CWT

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IDENTIFIED PRODUCT(S) MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE:

EXPORT APPLE ACT    EXPORT GRAPE AND PLUM ACT    EXPORT GRAPE AND PLUM ACT except for export to destinations in Europe, Greenland or Japan

CANADIAN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 35 (1) OF AGRICULTURE CANADA'S FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE REGULATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS OF MINISTERIAL EXEMPTION (EASEMENT) ISSUED BY AGRICULTURE CANADA AS FOLLOWS:

CONTRACT No.: \_\_\_\_\_ WITH AMENDMENT \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS:

FEE:	\$	I, the undersigned, a duly authorized Inspector of the United States Department of Agriculture, do hereby certify that samples of the herein described product were inspected and the grades as shown by said samples were as herein stated.
OVERTIME:	\$	
EXPENSES:	\$	
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$	
		INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE
		ISSUING OFFICE

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information is 0681-0143. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing the instruction, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.



## Example: PPQ Form 572 - Application for Inspection and Certification of Plants and Plant Products

No Phytosanitary Export Certificate can be issued until an application is completed (7 CFR 353).

FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 0679-0062

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0679-0062. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .25 minutes/hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE		<b>APPLICATION FOR INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT</b>	
1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER		3. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (or exporters agent)  <div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">AREA CODE AND PHONE NO.</div>	
2. NAME AND ADDRESS OF FOREIGN CONSIGNEE		4. PLACE WHERE ARTICLES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND/OR TREATMENT AND CERTIFICATION (Port and location)	
		5. APPROX. DATE OF DEPARTURE	6. PORT OF EXPORT
7. DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES TO BE CERTIFIED			
a.  QUANTITY AND NAME OF PRODUCE AND BOTANICAL NAME			
b.  NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES			
c.  DISTINGUISHING MARKS			
d.  CERTIFIED ORIGIN			
8. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE		<i>I certify that the origin (place where grown) of the articles listed is as represented.</i>	
9. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY		10. SIGNATURE (applicant or exporters agents)	11. DATE
EXPORT INSPECTION DATA - (To be filled in by Plant Protection and Quarantine Officer)			
12. LOCATION OF ARTICLES		13. % OF MATERIALS EXAMINED	14. % OF MATERIALS INFESTED
15. FINDINGS AND/OR TREATMENT GIVEN (Use reverse if necessary)			
16. SIGNATURE			17. DATE AND TIME INSPECTED

PPQ FORM 572  
(APR 2005)

# Example: LPS-234 USDA Processed Eggs and Egg Products Export Certificate

OMB APPROVED: NO. 0581-NEW

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

## USDA PROCESSED EGG AND EGG PRODUCTS EXPORT CERTIFICATE

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNOR/EXPORTER:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	CERTIFICATE NUMBER:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p> <hr/> COMPETENT AUTHORITY:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE/IMPORTER:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		
STATE OF ORIGIN:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		
COUNTRY OF DESTINATION:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		
PLACE OF LOADING:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		
MEANS OF TRANSPORT:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	
CONDITIONS OF TRANSPORT/STORAGE:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		
PRODUCER/MANUFACTURER:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	DATE OF PACKING:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	TYPE OF PACKING:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>
NAME OF PRODUCTS:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	NUMBER OF PACKAGES:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	NET WEIGHT:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>
ATTESTATIONS:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>		

### CERTIFICATION

DATE:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>	PRINTED NAME:  <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p> <hr/> SIGNATURE:  
--	---

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0NEW. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 12 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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LPS-234 (12-2016)

## **Glossary of Acronyms**

AMS – Agricultural Marketing Service of  
USDA  
AIRS – Automated Import  
Reference System  
APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of  
USDA  
BN – Business Number (Canada)  
CBP – Bureau of Customs and Border Protection  
CBSA – Canada Border Service  
Agency  
CFIA – Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency  
CFSAN – Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition  
CFSAN eCATS – CFSAN Export Certification Application and Tracking System  
COPR – Canada Organic Products  
Regulations  
EV – Export Verification  
FDA – Food and Drug Administration  
FSIS – Food Safety and Inspection Service of  
USDA  
FWS – Fish and Wildlife Service Export  
Program  
HACCP – Hazard Analysis and Critical  
Control  
NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
NOP – National Organic Program  
NRI – Non-Resident Importer  
PEEPEV – Processed Egg and Egg Products Export Verification  
PPQ – Plant Protection and  
Quarantine  
RTE – Ready-To-Eat  
SFCR – Safe Food for Canadians Act  
SFCR – Safe Food for Canadians  
Regulations  
SRTG – State Regional  
Trade Groups  
USCOEA – United States-Canada Organic Equivalence Arrangement  
USMCA – United States-Mexico-Canada Free Trade Agreement

### **Attachments:**

No Attachments