



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

**Date:** 12/6/2006

**GAIN Report Number:** RS6065

## Russian Federation

### Livestock and Products

### Russia Opens Market to Dutch Live Cattle

**2006**

**Approved by:**

Allan Mustard

American Embassy, Moscow

**Prepared by:**

Erik Hansen, Mikhail Maksimenko, Kim Darby

---

**Report Highlights:**

Russia is now permitting certain livestock imports from the Netherlands, relaxing the restriction placed on the country because of past cases of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). Additional safeguards will be imposed on Dutch livestock throughout the supply chain. The new policy stems from rising demand for pedigree cattle, which has exhausted the supply from countries that were not under the restrictions.

---

Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Moscow [RS1]  
[RS]

Table of Contents

Executive Summary ..... 3

Full Text of the Official Order ..... 3

## Executive Summary

Russia is now permitting certain livestock imports from the Netherlands, relaxing the restriction placed on the country because of past cases of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). Single deliveries of pedigree cattle born and raised on farms without any registered BSE cases can now apply for certification with the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS). VPSS has agreed to sign the certificates no later than 21 days before the animals are shipped. The provinces in the Netherlands that will be included are Nord-Brabant, Friesland, Groningen, Utrecht, Flevoland, Nord-Holland, Zeeland, Drenthe, Limburg, Overijssel, and Zuid-Holland.

Additional safeguards will be imposed on Dutch livestock throughout the supply chain. The original animals and their offspring must be traced and kept separate both at the farm and processing facilities. The farm can only sell the animals to a processor, not to another farm. Processors must have the animals tested for BSE before they are approved for distribution. The test is based on brain samples of animals that are at least 24 months old, which are sent to a VPSS-certified veterinary laboratory and also stored on site.

The new policy stems from rising demand for pedigree cattle, which has exhausted the supply from countries that were not under the restrictions. The development of Russia's livestock sector is part of a national priority project, offering subsidies to producers to purchase high quality genetics (see GAIN RS5086).

## Unofficial Embassy Translation of the Official Order

VPSS Order No. FS-EH-2/7829, November 2, 2006 "Concerning Shipments of Pedigree Cattle Born and Raised in the Netherlands"

Given the fact that at present the Netherlands is complying with OIE requirements for monitoring bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and is meeting the assurances of the Netherlands veterinary service for preventing dissemination of the BSE agent, single deliveries are allowed for pedigree cattle born and raised from Nord-Brabant, Friesland, Groningen, Utrecht, Flevoland, Nord-Holland, Zeeland, Drenthe, Limburg, Overijssel, and Zuid-Holland provinces of the Netherlands.

Imports of pedigree cattle from the Netherlands will be allowed only under security of the administration and the veterinary service of the territorial subject \* of the Russian Federation, to which territory the cattle will be imported.

To register the request for importation, the administration and the veterinary service of the subject of the Russian Federation must guarantee that:

1. A competent representative of the national veterinary service will be detached to the Netherlands to monitor the epizootic situation, selection, animal quarantine, and to sign the veterinary certificates no later than 21 days before animals are shipped.
2. Animal selection will take place in farms where BSE has never been registered and the animals on the farms are not related to BSE-sick animals.
3. The imported cattle will be used for intra-farm commercial needs only.

---

\* "territorial subject" refers to Russia's provinces (oblasts, krais, autonomous okrugs, and so on).

4. The imported cattle and their offspring will be kept separate from the rest of the farm's livestock.
5. Livestock record keeping has been put in place in the territorial subject of the Russian Federation. The imported animals will be registered and identified.
6. Slaughter of animals imported from the Netherlands and their offspring will be done separately from the rest of the cattle at the meat packing plant that has been specially assigned and certified by the veterinary service of the territorial subject of the Russian Federation. The enterprise will maintain the records of cattle arrived and products of slaughter will be monitored throughout the entire technological cycle of slaughter and processing. The enterprise will create necessary conditions and purchase equipment to segregate specific risk materials (brain and spinal cord, visible lymphatic glands, long bones, vertebrae, eyes, intestines) and also to take brain samples from animals starting from the age of 24 months, and store them. Selected brain samples will be sent to the certified veterinary laboratory to test for BSE.

In addition, carcasses received from slaughter of cattle imported from the Netherlands and their offspring older than 24 months will be kept separate during the BSE diagnostic testing in specially designated cold storage facilities. Bones and specified risk materials will be sent for destruction to facilities that are specially assigned and certified for that purpose. Carcasses will be allowed for use after lab test results for BSE return negative.

7. Payment for BSE testing will be entirely covered by the animal's owner or by the budget of the territorial subject of the Russian Federation.
8. Meat plant effluents will be subject to disinfection.

The VPSS instruction dated 05.07.2005 No. FS-EH-2/4322 is canceled.

**Source:** <http://www.tks.ru/cgi-bin/text.pl?file=200612040009&id=law>