

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: US Bovine Embryos Gain Market Access to Philippines

Country: Philippines

Post: Manila

Report Category: Livestock and Products, Dairy and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Promotion Opportunities

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Report Highlights:

On May 19, 2020, the Philippines formally granted market access to U.S. bovine embryos, leveling the playing field for U.S. exporters vis-à-vis the competition in Australia and Canada. Post estimates sales of U.S. bovine embryos could reach \$400,000 in the next 12 months, with more potential over the following two to three years due to new Philippine government initiatives to develop the beef and dairy sectors.

General Information

The Philippine Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and the USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service have finalized the health protocol for the importation of bovine embryos from the United States into the Philippines. The complete requirements may be accessed at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/export/international-standard-setting-activities-oie/regionalization/sa_by_country/sa_p/ct_animal_philippines

The Philippines has a small beef and dairy industry that the Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA) has sought to develop through various assistance programs, including through the importation of live cattle and genetics. Total cattle inventory as of January 2020 is about 2,545,000 head, with approximately 10 percent (25,900 head) in dairy cattle and five percent (10,600 head) in dairy cows. Meanwhile, 90 percent of beef and dairy inventories are held by smallholder farms (≤ 20 head). Lack of available grazing land and high feed costs, among others, have prolonged inefficient production systems and stagnant growth. More information on the Philippine dairy industry is available at the FAS [Dairy Annual Report](#) and from DA's [National Dairy Authority](#).

Industry contacts report that sales of U.S. bovine embryos could reach \$400,000 within the year, specifically to support the dairy industry and for use by agricultural colleges and research institutions. However, opportunities for embryo use by the private sector and for the beef industry as a whole are currently limited. Opportunities for increased sales may open up in the next two to three years with new government initiatives being implemented in an effort to expand the local beef and dairy production.

Like all live animal and animal product importation, a licensed importer must secure a Sanitary and Phytosanitary Import Clearance (SPSIC) from BAI's National Veterinary Quarantine Services. Products must not be shipped for export before the SPSIC's issuance yet must be shipped no later than 60 days following its issuance.

Tariff Rates

The Most Favored Nation tariff rate for bovine embryos is one percent. However, importers may receive a zero duty under the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act, subject to submission of a Certificate of Eligibility or Certificate of Accreditation, issued by DA.

Further Information and Assistance

USDA-FAS at the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines is ready to help exporters of U.S. agricultural products achieve their objectives in the Philippines. Contact us at AgManila@fas.usda.gov

Attachments:

No Attachments.