

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 7/07/2011

GAIN Report Number: SP1113

Spain

Post: Madrid

Scam Targets Food Export Companies

Report Categories:Agricultural Situation

Approved By:

Robert Hanson Agricultural Attaché

Prepared By:

Marta Guerrero Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

The Subdirectorate General for Foreign Health, within the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Gender Equality (MOH) informed the Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) in US Embassy Madrid about a scam that is targeting food export companies interested in establishing their products in Spain. The scamming company charges between 500 and 750 Euros for dealing with the products registration procedure. The MOH informed the OAA that there is no such requirement for food products registration, with the exception of special foods such as baby dairy food products or sports supplements.

General Information:

The Subdirectorate General for Foreign Health, within the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Gender Equality (MOH) informed the Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) in US Embassy Madrid about a scam that is targeting food export companies interested in establishing their products in Spain.

The scamming company informs their customers that, according to national law, food products need to be registered before they are imported. To deal with this procedure the scamming company charges between 500 and 750 Euros.

The MOH informed the OAA that there is no such requirement for food products registration. Only special foods such as baby dairy food products or sports supplements need to undertake the registration procedure. All import requirements are publicly available at http://www.msps.es/profesionales/saludPublica/sanidadExterior/controlesSanitarios/procedControl/home.htm.

Any question related to import requirements should be addressed to saniext@mspsi.es. For further assistance related to import conditions you may also contact:

Foreign Agricultural Service. Office of Agricultural Affairs U.S. Embassy Madrid Serrano, 75 – Box 20 28006 Madrid Spain

Tel.: +34-91-587-Fax: +34-91-587-2556

Website: http://madrid.usembassy.gov/about-us/fas.html

Email: agmadrid@fas.usda.gov