

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Singapore

**Post:** Singapore

## Beef Export Protocol to Singapore

### **Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

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### **Report Highlights:**

This report is an update to the “Singapore Opens Market to Full Range of U.S. Beef Products” GAIN report issued on 2/4/2016. This update reflects the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) transition to the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) and Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS) as of April 1, 2019.

This report provides information on the procedures and conditions for U.S. suppliers intending to export beef cuts, processed beef, and offal to Singapore.

### **General Information:**

As of April 1, 2019, the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) restructured to form the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) and the Singapore Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS). SFA is under the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and oversees all food-related matters including food safety and security. AVS is under the National Parks Board (NParks) and oversees all non-food related animal, plant, and wildlife management matters.

In 2015, AVA and USDA concluded discussions on the conditions required for the United States to export an expanded range of bone-in and boneless beef cuts, processed beef products, and beef offal to Singapore. To be eligible to export this expanded range of products to Singapore, U.S. beef establishments and products must meet specific conditions. These conditions are outlined below:

### Beef Cuts:

Boneless and bone-in cuts are approved for export to Singapore provided the U.S. beef establishments are in the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) Beef Export Verification program for Singapore. This Singapore Export Verification (SEV) program includes conditions on the sources of cattle from which beef and beef products can be derived, as follows:

1. Beef and beef products derived from cattle of all ages that are born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States, as well as feeder cattle born in Canada and Mexico but raised and slaughtered in the United States, are eligible.
2. Beef and beef products derived from calves under 12 months of age imported from Canada for direct slaughter are eligible.
3. Beef and beef products derived from cattle imported from Canada for direct slaughter can only be boneless cuts from animals less than 30 months of age.
4. Beef and beef products derived from cattle imported from Mexico for direct slaughter are not allowed.

### Processed Beef Products:

Prior to exporting processed beef products, SFA must evaluate and approve U.S. establishments. The establishment must participate in the SEV program, and the raw materials used to make the processed beef products must have been sourced from SEV program compliant products and establishments. To complete the evaluation and obtain approval, SFA requires interested establishments to submit the following documentation:

1. Establishment name, number, and address.
2. List of products intended for export.
3. Brief description of each specific product, including product specifications and shelf life.
4. Product label with content information (i.e. ingredient list from greatest to least).
5. Documentation showing the production process flow chart, including stages, critical control points, and temperature control of final product (SFA welcomes photographs as supporting documentation).
6. Documentation proving the establishment's participation in the SEV program, such as a copy of the AMS website SEV list showing the specific establishment.

### Offal:

Prior to exporting offal, SFA must evaluate and approve U.S. establishments. SFA defines offal as “internal organs.” The establishment must be in the SEV program. If the offal originated from another establishment, that establishment must also be in the SEV program. To complete the evaluation and obtain approval, SFA requires interested establishments to submit the following documentation:

1. Establishment name, number, and address.
2. List of individual offal intended for export.
3. Brief description of each specific offal product, including product characteristics and shelf life.
4. Documentation showing the production process flow chart, including processing stages, critical control points, and temperature control of the final product. Documentation showing the separate line within the plant for offal, and a description of offal harvesting, washing, and packaging should also be included (SFA welcomes photographs as supporting documentation).
5. Documentation must show that the offal was hygienically processed in a separate line destined and fit for human consumption (SFA welcomes photographs and/or videos as supporting documentation).
6. Documentation showing the establishment’s participation in the SEV program, such as a copy of the AMS website SEV list showing the specific establishment.

In addition to the above described offal establishment and product pre-approval procedure, SFA requires that each offal consignment destined for Singapore undergo pre-export testing to ensure the offal comply with SFA’s ractopamine maximum residue levels (MRL). SFA applies a ractopamine MRL of 40 parts per billion (ppb) for liver and 90 ppb for kidney. SFA applies a zero ractopamine MRL for all other internal organs. Documentation of these pre-export testing results must be included with the health certificates for all consignments.

### Where/How to Submit Documentation:

U.S. beef establishments interested in exporting processed beef products and/or offal should submit the required pre-approval documentation listed above to:

[accreditation\\_applications@sfa.gov.sg](mailto:accreditation_applications@sfa.gov.sg)

Establishments should also send copies of their documentation to the USDA Agriculture Affairs Office (AAO) in Singapore ([agsingapore@fas.usda.gov](mailto:agsingapore@fas.usda.gov)). AAO/Singapore will follow-up on the applications submitted to SFA and facilitate communication. After reviewing the submitted documentation, SFA will directly notify the U.S. establishment on their decision (or if further information is required). If exporters/establishments need clarification on procedures or documentation, please send questions to AAO/Singapore at the email listed above.

Additional information on requirements for shipping beef and beef products to Singapore can be found in the USDA Food Safety Inspection Services’ Export Library entry for Singapore at the following link: [FSIS Export Library for Singapore](#).