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Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

Poland applies European Union (EU) regulatory requirements for all food of animal- and plant-origin food. Although the EU has harmonized export certification requirements for most products, Poland maintains national-level oversight for products still not harmonized under the EU. Poland's competent authorities can be consulted, on a case-by-case basis, regarding requirements for non-EU harmonized products. The EU requires that all requisite products be accompanied by sanitary and/or phytosanitary certificates at the port of entry.

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DISCLAIMER:

This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy Warsaw's Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) for exporters of U.S.-origin food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate due to policy changed since preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. Post recommends that U.S. exporters verify all import requirements with their international customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. Final 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. The following Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Certificate report should also read in conjunction with the OAA Warsaw's 2020 FAIRS Annual Country report, as well as the EU-28 FAIRS reports prepared by the U.S. Mission to the EU's OAA, which is available on their [webpage](#).

I. List of Required Export Certificates

EU legislation mandates many health and supervisory requirements as a means to guarantee that imports meet the standards of production in Member States (MS). The EU recognizes the United States as eligible to export some animal products. The EU requires pre-approval for export establishments, based on official U.S. request. The U.S. regulatory agencies which typically determine export establishment eligibility to ship to the EU are the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). [EU-approved establishments](#) may be subject to EU inspection.

After conducting a 'fitness check' of the General Food Law, the EC amended Regulation EC/178/2002 in June 2019 via Regulation 2019/1381, regarding the transparency the EU's risk assessment procedures. Another result of the fitness check was to replace Directive EC/2000/29 of May 8, 2000, which regulated the introduction or dissemination of organisms deemed hazardous to plants or plant products, by the following EU regulations. These regulations are enforceable in all MS's without the need any MS-level implementing regulations:

- Regulation (EC) No 2016/2031 of 26 October 2016 on plant pest protection measures.
- Regulation (EC) No 2017/625 of 15 March 2017 on official controls and enforcement of food and feed laws, and animal health and welfare requirements, plant health and plant protection products. The Regulation supersedes former Regulation 882/2004.

The EU requires veterinary and/or general health certificates to accompany each shipment of meat, which must be signed and dated prior to shipment. Competent U.S. certifying agents will delete any statement appearing on the EU model certificate that is not applicable. The EU imposes a number of general requirements for all veterinary health certificates. Directive 2002/99/EC, Annex IV.6, stipulates that certificates must be issued before the consignments to leave the control of the competent authority. Non-compliance may result in rejection of shipment at the EU point of entry. FSIS, APHIS, and AMS include specific guidelines on their websites (e.g. the FSIS Export Library).

The EU also harmonized import requirements for plants and plant products, which are published in a single directive. Unlike veterinary products, the EU employs only one model certificate for all plants and plant products. This is consistent with international guidance as provided by the [International Plant Protection Convention](#). For the United States, APHIS issues the phytosanitary certificate with the requisite attestations to specific requirements of the EU.

EU certification requirements for some products may be partially or not harmonized. For such products, rules of the individual MS would apply. The import agent should have some guidance to provide on the MS requirement for that product. If not, request guidance on current requirements from the U.S. Embassy's OAA (see Appendix for contact information). U.S. regulatory agencies which issue export certificates usually identify specific MS requirements in their export libraries and guides.

Poland applies EU export certification requirements for imported products. Required certificate details are set out in specific legislation, including veterinary health certificate models to be used (links included at the end of this report). The EU, including Poland, does not specify a list of eligible plants for third countries from which certain products are imported.

II. Purpose of the Export Certificates

Poland, as a member of the EU, conforms to all EU regulations and directives. Therefore, it is recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the U.S. EU OAA FAIRS Certificate report Guide available on their [website](#).

III. Specific Attestation Required on the Export Certificate

For the identity check of the shipment, the State Veterinary Inspectorate requires the container seal number be printed on the veterinary certificate. A seal number on the bill of lading is not sufficient, as these can be easily re-issued by private companies. If no seal number is present on the certificate, a physical check is necessary to verify the identity of the shipment.

IV. Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

According to the regulation of August 27th, 2003 on veterinary border inspection (Polish Journal of Law 2003, no. 165, pos. 1590), products may be imported if:

- The consignment contains an original veterinary certificate drawn up in at least one official language designated by the border inspection and the country of final destination issued by the competent authority of the country of origin;
- Products are labeled in a way that can be identified;
- Products come from the lists published by the European Commission (in the case of products for which import requirements are specified in the EU regulations);
- List of third countries or their parts; and
- List of institutions authorized to introduce the products into the EU.

Veterinary border checks of consignments imported into the Poland are conducted in accordance with the Law of 29 January 2004 (Polish Journal of Law 2004 No. 33. pos.287).

V. Other Certification or Accreditation

According to Article 24, 2nd Act, from December 16, 2005, (published in the Polish Journal of Law 2006, No. 17, pos. 127), the General Veterinary Inspectorate is the competent authority in all veterinary regulatory matters with non-EU countries.

Appendix I. Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate:

Detailed information on export certification can be found at [OAA USEU](#). The following links contain most important samples of import certificates required for various products and the list of third countries from which import of certain product is permitted:

- [meat](#) products,
- [poultry](#) and products
- eggs and related [products](#)
- [milk and dairy products](#)

For additional information concerning market access, other import requirements, or a current list of importers, please contact OAA Warsaw:

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Attachments:

No Attachments