

Processed animal proteins, for use in animal feeds, from the United States are PROHIBITED. (Exceptions are detailed below.)

Japan's definition of processed animal proteins includes: Meat and bone meal, meat meal, offal meal, bone meal, blood meal, dried plasma, other blood products (excluding those for use in cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and medical devices), hydrolyzed protein, hoof meal, horn meal, skin meal (including leather meal), feather meal, greaves, declaim phosphate (mineral origin excluding those with no trace of protein or fat), gelatin, collagen, and **any other products containing these processed animal proteins which may be used as feeding stuffs, feed additives, or fertilizer.**

Exceptions:

The following products certified by the veterinary authority of the exporting country that they meet the respective requirements are not subject to the import suspension.

1. **Pet food as a final packaged product.**
2. Gelatin and collagen prepared exclusively from hides and skins, and prepared from bones are produced in accordance with the following procedures:
 - A. Skulls and vertebrae (excluding tail vertebrae) have been excluded;
 - B. The bones have been subjected to a process which includes all the following steps:
 1. Pressure washing (degreasing)
 2. Acid demineralization
 3. Prolonged alkaline treatment
 4. Filtration
 5. Sterilization at 138C for a minimum of 4 seconds.
3. Fishmeal produced in processing plants dedicated only to fishmeal production where no material of animal origin other than fish protein is being used.

Please note: USDA/APHIS/VS will issue export certificates for fishmeal to Japan. A VS Form 16-4 should be used with the following additional declaration:

"The fishmeal was produced in a processing plant that is delegated only to fishmeal production where no material of animal origin other than fish protein is being used."

This statement must not be made on the basis of an affidavit, and must not be placed below the "This office has on file a notarized affidavit from (company name) verifying the statements below" statement on the 16-4.

Before this document can be signed, an inspection should be done of the exporting facility to ensure that only fish protein is being produced. No approval number is necessary. Hourly user fees should be charged for the inspection. Yearly inspections should be done thereafter, unless there is concern that the facility is not in compliance.