

Inedible Rendered Product Exports to Canada

Bulk shipments of U.S. origin rendered products* are only allowed entry into Canada with an import permit (issued to the Canadian importer) and an official animal health/export certificate endorsed by a full-time salaried USDA (APHIS VS) or FDA veterinarian.

*Canada's definition of a rendered product is much broader than the U.S. definition and includes products such as digests (flavorings) and spray dried ingredients. Since the Canadian definition of a "rendered product" is broad and complex, U.S. exporters should confirm with their Canadian importers whether or not the product they wish to export is considered a rendered product enterable only under an import permit. NOTE: Canada does not consider finished pet foods to be "rendered products" even those that may contain rendered ingredients.

The requirement for bulk shipments of rendered products (except fishmeal) to only be allowed entry into Canada with an import permit has been in effect since BSE was first detected in the United States. With Canada's implementation of their enhanced feed ban on July 12, 2007, fishmeal is now regulated by CFIA and must meet the same requirements as other rendered products. [Exporters of fishmeal should see the information on fishmeal exports to Canada for more specific information pertinent to fishmeal exports only.]

Process

The following steps must be completed by U.S. facilities/exporters for the export of bulk shipments of rendered products to Canada.

1. Complete the CFIA "Facility Questionnaire – Importation from the USA of Products of Rendering Plants." The questionnaire can be obtained from the Canadian importer. It can also be downloaded from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) International Animal Products Regulations (IREGs) or obtained from the VS Area Offices.
2. Request a verification inspection and endorsement of the Facility Questionnaire by APHIS VS. To schedule an inspection, contact the VS Area Office responsible for the State where the facility is located. NOTE: The inspection can be scheduled before completion of the CFIA Facility Questionnaire provided the Questionnaire is completed prior to the actual date of inspection.
3. Provide the original, signed, dated and officially endorsed Facility Questionnaire to the Canadian importer. This document must be submitted to CFIA by the Canadian importer together with an application for an import permit. The VS Area Office will maintain a copy of the completed Facility questionnaire. Official copies of the current, endorsed Facility Questionnaire can be provided to subsequent Canadian importers, as needed (provided the Questionnaire is current and the information still valid). NOTE: Since CFIA issues import permits from four different offices, the exporting facility may need to provide an original

- (signature/seal) of the Facility Questionnaire to subsequent Canadian importers if they will be applying through different offices.
4. Obtain a copy of the import permit from the Canadian importer.
 5. Prepare the animal health/export certificate(s) for endorsement in accordance with the issued permit and CFIA's requirements for rendered meals. [See also "CFIA's Requirements for Bulk, Rendered, Dry Inedible Products from USA"]
 6. Present a copy of the applicable import permit the endorsing VS Area Office with each request for an animal health/export certificate. To avoid delays in endorsement or refusal of entry, ensure that the import permit is current and that the information on the animal health/export certificate matches the accompanying import permit.
 7. Prepare the renderer's statement in accordance with CFIA's requirements. [see certification requirements below]
 8. Ensure that each shipment of rendered product is accompanied by the import permit allowing entry of the product, together with an ORIGINAL export certificate endorsed and issued by an APHIS VS veterinarian, and the supporting renderer's statement.

Facility and Product Requirements

To be eligible to manufacture or export rendered products to Canada, the facility must be dedicated (i.e., the facility does not receive, store, or process any ruminants* and things derived from ruminants).

To be eligible for export to Canada, the product must have been prepared, processed, stored, and otherwise handled in a manner to avoid contamination with any of the following ruminant* tissues, which are considered to be specified risk materials (SRM):

- a. The skull, including the brain, trigeminal ganglia and eyes, the spinal cord and the vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum), and dorsal root ganglia from all bovine animals aged 30 months or older; and
- b. The small intestines and tonsils from bovine animals of all ages.

*ruminant is defined as an animal of the subfamily *Bovinae* and *Caprinae* and includes cattle, buffalo, bison, sheep and goats, and their exotic relatives. Ruminants and things derived from them of Canadian origin or from a Category 1 (negligible BSE risk) country are exempted from this prohibition and are permitted within the establishment.

The moisture content of the product must not exceed 12%. [NOTE: This is a new requirement for the export of dry, inedible rendered products to Canada. If the current Questionnaire for the facility does not address this requirement, certification as to moisture content can be made on the basis of a notarized affidavit until the facility's next scheduled inspection using the current Questionnaire.]

Certification Requirements [NOTE: These are the requirements as provided by CFIA to APHIS VS. Certification requirements, as specified on a current, valid Canadian import permit, will supersede this information.]

Official Veterinary Certification

The following statements are required on the VS 16-4, Health Certificate-Export Certificate-Animal Products, in the ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS section:

1. The [name of products] covered by this export certificate and import permit number [indicate import permit number] were only produced at [indicate name and address of the producer as identified in the import permit] and were only exported to Canada from [indicate name and address of the producer/exporter as identified in the import permit].
2. The producing/exporting facility(ies) DOES NOT receive, store, or process any ruminants and things derived from them, and the product has been prepared, processed, stored, and otherwise handled in a manner to avoid contamination with any of the following ruminant tissues, which are considered to be specified risk materials (SRM):
 - a. the skull, including the brain, trigeminal ganglia and eyes, the spinal cord and the vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum), and dorsal root ganglia from all bovine animals aged 30 months or older; and
 - b. the small intestine and tonsils from bovine animals of all ages.
3. The moisture content of the product is less than 12 percent. [NOTE: This is a new requirement for the export of dry, inedible rendered products to Canada. If the current Questionnaire for the facility does not address this requirement, certification as to moisture content can be made on the basis of a notarized affidavit until the facility's next scheduled inspection using the current Questionnaire.]

Renderer's Statement

The renderer (manufacturer) must provide a statement which includes the name and address of the rendering facility that produced the product and the date (or range of dates) of production. The renderer (manufacturer) must also state that 1) the moisture content of the product is less than 12%; 2) the rendering facility does not handle prohibited material*; 3) the product does not contain any prohibited material as defined by Section 162 of CFIA's Health of Animal Regulations; and 4) the product may be used in the manufacture of feed for ruminants.

*Prohibited materials are ruminants and ruminant tissues derived from ruminants, including SRMs as listed in 2a and b under "official veterinary certification."