

FSIS Regulations

From: Rosann Allen [docanne@pyramid3.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2003 10:41 PM
To: FSIS Regulations
Subject: Fw: Attention FSIS Docket Clerk



----- Original Message -----

From: "Ralph Gayle" <gayle2000_2000@yahoo.com>
To: <docanne@pyramid3.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 24, 2003 2:40 PM
Subject: Attention FSIS Docket Clerk

02-015DF-44
02-015DF
Rosann Allen

> Rosann,
>
> Make this yours and send today to:
> fsis.regulations@usda.gov
>
>
> Department of Agriculture
> Food Safety and Inspection Service
> 9 CFR Part 381
> [Docket No. 02-015DF]
> RIN 0583-AC97
> Addition of Australia and New Zealand to the List of
> Foreign
> Countries Eligible to Import Poultry Products (Ratite
> Only) Into
> the United States
> Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA
> FISI Docket Clerk
> Docket 02-015DF, Room 102
> Cotton Annex, 300 C Street, SW.
> Washington, DC 20250-3700
> Gentlemen,
> I am responding to the above proposal to lift import restrictions for
> ratites and ratite products from Australia and New Zealand. I am very
> much "AGAINST" doing this.
> I represent, not only myself, but many other ostrich
> ranchers as well.
>
> As American ostrich farmers, we are struggling, like
> all American farmers, at this time, to keep our
> businesses going. We raise our birds for both meat and leather and the
> industry is now beginning to grow domestically in this country. The
> meat is a very healthy meat that is high in nutrition, high in iron,
> and low in fat and cholesterol. Our birds, like most
> American ostrich are raised using no added
> antibiotics, growth hormones or animal by-products.
> It is very important that we be able to sell our meat
> and meat products, our hides and leather products, our
> feathers and our eggs for a reasonable price in order
> to remain in business.
> Unlike other poultry, ostrich takes upwards of a year
> or longer to be ready for marketing. That represents a
> considerable investment of time, money, and resources,
> all of which are in short supply to American farmers.
> We get no
> subsistence from the government. And now, our own
> government is going to essentially provide subsistence
> to the Australian and New Zealand producers by opening
> the American market to them. They already get

> subsistence from their governments.
>
> We have worked with the USDA, FDA, state and national
> Farm Bureaus, state departments of agriculture,
> colleges and
> universities, and state and federal governments to
> enact legislation for the safety, control and
> regulation of ratite
> processing and marketing. We are currently working
> with the USDA in getting legislation written to cover
> ratites in the GIPSA. We are doing everything we can
> to ensure our production and processing facilities are following
> established rules and regulations, not only to produce a superior
> product, but to ensure the American public, which buys the products,
> are receive a safe and wholesome product. The importation of
> Australian and New Zealand products serverly
> undermines all these efforts.
> All American ratite growers (emu and ostrich) will be
> hurt enormously by passage of an Agreement to lift the
> import
> restrictions with Australia and New Zealand. Please
> reconsider and withdraw this rule.
> Respectfully yours,
> Rosann Allen
> Rockport, TX
>
>
> _____
> Do you Yahoo!?
> Yahoo! SiteBuilder - Free, easy-to-use web site design software
> <http://sitebuilder.yahoo.com>
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