

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Korea - Republic of

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

The United States has an organic equivalency arrangement with Korea for processed organic products that took effect July 1, 2014. So long as terms of the arrangements are met, U.S. organic products certified by USDA/AMS/NOP accredited certifying agents to the USDA National Organic Program may be sold as organic in Korea. As for non-processed organic products, they must continue to be certified by Korea's accredited certifying agents to the Korean organic standards to be sold as organic in Korea.

AMS issues the export certificate for food products containing eggs regulated by FDA beginning

November 10, 2014. Two more options for heat treatment conditions for egg products have been added.

Korea removed LLRice testing certificate requirements for rice imported from the United States in the second half of 2014.

Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government (Matrix) :

This report provides an overview of export certificates for various agricultural products required by the Korean government for import inspection. Prior to export, U.S. exporters are strongly encouraged to consult with the appropriate U.S. authority concerning the eligibility of their product and the specific requirements imposed by the Korean government.

List of Export Certificates Required by Korea

Product(s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry*
Beef and beef products	FSIS Form 9060-5 and 9305-7 (issued by USDA/FSIS)	Multiple statements on 9305-7. See Appendix.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Pork	FSIS Form 9060-5 and 9305-5 (issued by USDA/FSIS)	Multiple statements on 9305-5. See Appendix.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Poultry**	FSIS Form 9060-5 and 9305-2A (issued by USDA/FSIS)	Multiple statements on 9305-2A. See Appendix.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Egg products	PY-200 issued by USDA/FSIS for liquid, frozen, and dried eggs and a certificate issued by USDA/AMS for food products containing eggs	Attestation to detailed pasteurization treatment: 55° C for a minimum of 15 minutes, 60° C for a minimum of 5 minutes, 64° C for a minimum of 4.5 minutes, 75° C for a minimum of 2 minutes, or 80° C for a minimum of 1 minute.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Dairy*** products	Export Certificate (issued by exporting government) or	“Products have been pasteurized for 15 seconds at 72C or	Export certificate or manufacturer	QIA/MAFRA

	manufacturer self-declaration	longer” or “Products have been UHT/HTST/LTST treated” “Products have been treated for at least 15 seconds at 57-68C and then matured (limited to cheese)” or “Products have been fermented using lactic acid bacteria”	statement	
Pork casing	FSIS Form 9060-7 and 9305-5 (issued by USDA/FSIS)	Only pork casings from animals slaughtered and processed in the United States are eligible for export to Korea.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Protein-free tallow	FSIS Form 9060-5 (issued by USDA/FSIS)	“Certified materials have been tested, and found to have a level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% or less.”	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Live animal	Health Certificate (issued by USDA/APHIS)	Attestation required on certificate varies depending on species. See Appendix.	Health certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Fresh vegetable, grains, fruits, nuts	PPQ Form 577 (issued by USDA/APHIS)	Attestation required on certificate varies depending on products. See Appendix.	Phytosanitary certificate	QIA/MAFRA
Frozen vegetables and fruits	Form FV-146CS (issued by USDA/AMS) or	“Products have been frozen at -17.8C or below.”	Certificate of Quality & Condition	QIA/MAFRA

	PPQ Form 578 (issued by USDA/APHIS)		or Export Certificate	
U.S. organic products*****	1) For U.S. processed organic products that are covered by the US- Korea equivalency arrangement	(A) A NAQS Import Certificate of organic processed food from USDA/AMS/NOP accredited certifying agents*** (B) A copy of an organic certificate issued by a USDA/AMS/NOP accredited certifying agents	Certificate to confirm the terms of the US-Korea equivalency arrangements have been met	NAQS/ MAFRA
	2) For non- processed organic products including livestock products	1) A copy of the organic certificate issued by Korea's accredited certifying agents***** 2) A transaction certificate issued by certifying agents in the exporting country	Certification to Korean organic standards	NAQS/MAFRA
Non-GMO bulk shipment	Full IP Documentation (issued by private entities) or Non- GMO Certificate (issued by exporting government)	Attestation to identity preserved (IP) handling of bulk grains	Certificate to prove IP handling of bulk grains from seed to final export	MFDS
Non-GMO processed products *****	Full IP Documentation issued by private entities; Non-GMO Certificate issued by exporting government; or Notarized Self Declaration issued by manufacturer –	Attestation to identity preserved (IP) handling of raw materials from seed purchasing to manufacturing	Certificate or statement to provide IP handling of raw materials used in processed products	MFDS

	See Appendix for example			
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- *MAFRA: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- *QIA: Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency
- *MFDS: Ministry of Food & Drug Safety
- *NAQS: National Agricultural Products Quality Management Service
- *USDA: U.S. Department of Agriculture
- *AMS: Agricultural Marketing Service
- *NOP: National Organic Program
- *FSIS: Food Safety Inspection Service
- *GIPSA: Grain, Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration
- *APHIS: Animal Plant Health Inspection Service
- *PPQ: Plant Protection & Quarantine
- *VS: Veterinary Service

** Effective December 20, 2014, FSIS stopped issuance of Form 9060-5 and 9305-2A for poultry and poultry products for export to Korea due to the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza. Poultry and poultry products shipped to Korea on or after December 20, 2014 will not be allowed entry into Korea.

*** Of dairy products, MFDS has processing standards for milk used in making cheese that are in addition to the above stated requirements for dairy products. Milk used in making cheese should be pasteurized for 30 minutes at 63C – 65C, 15 seconds at 72C – 75C or receive equivalent heat treatment. This heat treatment statement shall be described in the manufacturer statement, for example, as part of the manufacturing process chart.

**** Beginning July 1, 2014, the agreement reached by the United States and Korea on an equivalency arrangement for processed organic products took effect. Processed organic products covered by this arrangement may be exported to Korea if they are accompanied by a NAQS Import Certificate of Organic Processed Foods issued by NOP accredited certifying agents along with a copy of NOP organic certificate. A list of USDA/AMS/NOP accredited organic certifying agents is available from the following link: [USDA Accredited Certifying Agents](#)

**** This organic equivalency arrangement does not cover non-processed organic products including livestock products,

***** MFDS may change documentation requirements for non-GMO processed products according to the three pending bills submitted to the National Assembly in 2013 including requirements for expanded biotech labeling and a long pending revision of the current biotech labeling standards for processed products. Post will provide any updates on this matter as they become available.

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

The purpose of individual certificates is included in the table in Section I.

Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

Certain livestock products, grains and fruits require specific, pre-printed attestations in the

corresponding certificates. Links to these certificates are included in the Appendix.

Given their complexity, the documentation requirements to ship beef to Korea should be thoroughly reviewed by potential exporters. Korea requires that beef imports come from plants approved under the Export Verification (EV) Program set up by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). Beef must be slaughtered and/or processed at plants identified in the [Official Listing of Bovine Eligible Suppliers](#) (aka, USDA Bovine EV Programs).

Beef that was slaughtered and processed under an approved EV program can be exported after being stored in a warehouse approved by USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service. A list of all of the establishments can be found in [the FSIS Meat, Poultry and Egg Products Inspection Directory](#).

In addition, Korean beef importers and U.S. exporters have reached a commercial understanding that, as a transitional measure, only U.S. beef from cattle less than 30-months of age will be shipped to Korea.

AMS has set up a voluntary Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program to verify that beef from participating plants will be from cattle less than 30 months of age. Participation in this program is not required for issuance of the FSIS 9060-5. However, for establishments that do participate in the AMS QSA program, the following statement may appear in Remarks on the FSIS 9060-5: "The beef or beef products were produced at a verified establishment under the USDA Less than 30 Month Age Verification USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program for Korea." At this time, shipments of beef without the QSA program statement will not be accepted for port-of-entry inspection, and any such shipment will be returned to the owner/agent by Korean quarantine officials. A list of [QSA approved establishments](#) and their approval dates is maintained by AMS.

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

With a couple of exceptions, the original certificate is required for all products listed above at the time of entry according to Section I. The original certificate for IP grain and organic shipments is only required for the first shipment. Subsequent shipments can be accompanied by copies of the original.

In cases where a government issued certificate is required, any government entity (including city/municipal, state, federal) can issue certificates unless specified otherwise. Health certificates must be issued by federal quarantine authorities.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

Phytosanitary certificate: The "issuance date" of phytosanitary certificates shall be prior to the "on-board date" listed on the Bill of Lading. The "inspection date" on a certificate must be prior to the departure date. To prevent unnecessary delay at the port of entry, the certificate "issuance date" should be prior to the departure date of shipments.

Health certificate: The "issuance date" of health certificates issued for meat products originated from the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Australia may be after the "on-board date" listed on the Bill of Lading. In that case, however, the final inspection shall be conducted prior to loading and the final inspection date is required to be specified on the health certificate. Also, the health certificate must arrive in Korea by the time when meat products covered by the health certificate in question arrive in Korea.

Appendix I. Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

1. FSIS certificates

Please refer to the website below for details on Korea's export requirements.

[Korea's Export Requirements](#)

2. APHIS Certificate

A. Plant Certificate

Please refer to the website below for details about plant certificate requirements.

[APHIS Plant Health](#)

PPQ Form 577 can be viewed at the website below:

[APHIS PPQ Form 577](#)

B. Animal Certificates

Please refer to the website below for details about animal certificate requirements.

[APHIS Animal Health Certificate](#)

Korean requirements for live animal exports can be found at:

[APHIS Animal Health](#)

C. Dairy Certificate

Please refer to the website below for details about certificate requirements for dairy products.

Dairy products:

[APHIS Dairy](#)

Dairy products containing eggs:

[APHIS Dairy Containing Eggs](#)

D. Other Certificates Issued by APHIS

This certificate covers the period between [date] and [date]. [List name of products as per attached invoice(s) [number(s)] and other identifying information considered relevant by the certifier].

I certify that the information submitted above is true and the above product complies with the Korean Government requirements that the level of accidental mixing of GM varieties in the raw ingredient used in the product is below the 3-percent threshold. Full documentation of identity preservation is available upon request after notification to our company of the GM ingredient(s) that have been detected in our product(s).

Sincerely,

[Name]
[Title]
[Company name]

State of [Name]
[City]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this [day] of [month, year]
[Expiration Date of the Commission]
[Signature of Notary Public] [SEAL]