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Saudi Arabia

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

This FAIRS Certificates Report lists major export certificates required by Saudi Arabia's regulatory and import control agencies for the importation of food and agricultural products into the Kingdom. In 2015, Saudi Arabia's regulatory authorities continued its strict implementation of food import regulations and standards which have affected the flow of some U.S. food products exports to the Kingdom. The strict enforcement of import regulations included a ban on using unsubstantiated health benefits claims on the labels of prepackaged food products, a ban on poultry and egg product exports from U.S. states that have confirmed cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and a continued Saudi import ban on U.S. beef that was imposed in May 2012.

SECTION I. LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT (MATRIX)

The following tables list all export certificates required by Saudi government agencies for agricultural products imports to Saudi Arabia:

Product	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Authority or Organization
Livestock	1. Health Certificate	Livestock are disease free, were given all required vaccinations and meet all Saudi Arabian animal quarantine regulations.	Animal Health	Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)
	2. Pedigree Certificate	Certify that the exported animal meets the importer's animal breed quality requirements if the animal is imported for breeding purpose.	To ascertain genealogical record of the animal	Importing company MOA
	3. Animal Health Report	Up-to-date report on animal health.	Information on status of animal health from the time it left an exporting country port until it arrives at a Saudi port	
Poultry and Livestock Meat (Saudi Arabia bans imports of beef and beef products from countries that declare discoveries of BSE in bovine animals. In addition imports of pig meat and products are banned for religious reasons)	1. Health Certificate	Meat is free from disease and fit for human consumption.	Food safety	Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA)
	2. Halal Certificate and Certificate of Islamic Slaughter	Slaughtering has taken place in an officially licensed slaughterhouse and in accordance with Islamic slaughtering procedures.	Religious Conformity to Islamic slaughtering rituals	SFDA
	3. Animal Protein Feed Free Certificate	FSIS certificate to confirm that the bovine animals and poultry slaughtered were not fed with feed containing animal-protein, animal-fats or animal-manure.	Food safety Religious Conformity to Islamic rules on animal feed	SFDA

Product	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Authority or Organization
Dairy Products	<p>1. Health Certificate</p> <p>2. Veterinary Certificate</p> <p>3. Certificate of Radioactivity Measurement (for imports from Europe and the former USSR countries)</p>	<p>Products contain no harmful level of contaminants and fit for human consumption.</p> <p>Among other things, it attests milk is derived from cows in which BSE has not been officially identified and bovine herds were not fed with protein derived from animal ruminant.</p> <p>Products detailed on the certificate contain total radiocaesium concentrations within officially established level and are fit for human consumption.</p>	<p>Food safety</p> <p>Food safety</p> <p>Food safety</p>	<p>SFDA</p> <p>SFDA</p> <p>SFDA</p>
Egg and Egg Products	Health Certificate	<p>Egg products have been processed to ensure the destruction of all pathogen agents, especially Salmonella.</p> <p>Products have been processed against any contamination before and after processing.</p> <p>Egg products have been processed in an approved establishment under official health supervision.</p> <p>Based on of a national control scheme, egg products comply with the importing country of origin or international standards regarding residue of chemical contaminants, such as dioxins, pesticides, veterinary drugs etc... or any other contaminations</p>	Food safety	SFDA

Product	Title of	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting
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	Certificate			Authority or Organization
Fish and Seafood	Health Certificate	Fish and seafood products meet all specified Saudi Arabian sanitary attestation requirements	Food safety	SFDA
Fruits and Vegetables	Phytosanitary Certificate	Products are inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by importing country.	Food safety	MOA
Processed Foodstuffs	Health Certificate	Exported products were processed or manufactured under conditions that comply with sanitary and health laws of the exporting country and are fit for human consumption.	Food safety	SFDA
	Biotech Health Certificate (if biotech content in processed foods exceed one percent)	Biotech processed foods that are exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for human consumption. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in the foodstuffs are approved in the country of origin for human consumption.	Food safety	SFDA
	Novel Foods	A Free Sale Certificate testifying that the product, with its components and ingredients, is freely sold in one of the countries which apply Codex standards or EU legislations.	Food safety	SFDA
Planting Seed	Phytosanitary Certificate	Products were inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by importing country.	Phytosanitary concern	MOA
	Seed Analysis Certificate	Seeds were tested in accordance with ISTA rules and are free from insects, epidemic, diseases and weed seeds.	Seed quality	MOA and importing company
	Biotech Health Certificate (if biotech content in planting seeds exceed one percent)	Biotech seed exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for planting seeds. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredient used in the planting seed production is approved in the country of origin for planting seeds.	Food safety and Concern for biodiversity	MOA

Product	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Authority or Organization
Grain and Feed	Phytosanitary Certificate	Certify that the plants, part of plants or products or other regulated articles described have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and conform to current phytosanitary requirements of the importing country including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.	Phytosanitary concern	MOA
	Grain Analysis Certificate	Imported grain meets the importers quality specifications.	Grain quality	MOA and importing company
	Certificate of Weight or Packing list	Provides marks and numbers and other important information about the shipment.	To expedite customs clearance	Importing company
	Fumigation Certificate	Attests that the stated quantity and type of exported grain was fumigated on the indicated date.	Grain quality	MOA
	Biotech Health Certificate, if biotech content in grain and feed exceed 1 percent	Biotech grain and feed exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for human or animal consumption. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in the grain production are approved in the country of origin for human or animal consumption.	Food Safety	MOA
Forest Products	International Conformity Certification Program	The goods stated below according to the attached invoice and exported from (name of the country) have been subjected to laboratory tests and proven to be in compliance with the approved standards in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.	Product quality	SFDA

GCC Guide for Control on Imported Foods

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries which includes Saudi Arabia, along with the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and Bahrain), has been in the process of establishing common food safety regulations to be uniformly applied in all GCC countries. Recently, the GCC Food Safety Committee issued a new Guide for Control on Imported Foods, which has been implemented by SFDA on

experimental basis for unspecified period starting June 1, 2015. The GCC Import Guide contains some import requirements and certifications that caused concerns for the U.S. suppliers and could negative impact U.S. exports of agricultural and food products to Saudi Arabia and other GCC countries. Among the most concerning items of the GCC Import Guide are some health certificates for imported food products covering processed foods, meat, dairy, table eggs, fish products as well as plant and plant products. In addition, the Import Guide requires that meat and meat product must be obtained from animals not fed on processed animal protein excluding fish meal; the animals must be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse approved by the GCC authorities; and the slaughterhouse is under direct supervision of the competent authority of exporting country. Following to a request from the USG, the SFDA decided to implement the GCC Import Guide on an experimental or trial basis for unspecified period in order to allow enough time to evaluate the impact of the new required certificates on the flow of imported food and agricultural products into Saudi Arabia. In the meantime, the SFDA has said it will continue to accept all current certificates issued by the competent authorities in charge of agricultural and food product exports in the U.S. and other countries until a decision is made for concerning the full implementation of a revised GCC Import Guide.

SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

See “purpose” column above.

The export certificate table in this report deals mainly with official documents issued for food safety and animal health concerns. Regardless of the kind of agricultural products imported, a commercial invoice, a bill of lading, a country of origin declaration, a certificate of weight and a packing list must accompany official certificates. These four documents are defined below for information purpose.

Commercial Invoice

A commercial invoice is a document a seller issues on company’s letterhead that details the business deal between the seller and a buyer. The invoice should include the name and address of both the seller and buyer, the date of the sale, a description of the goods sold, the quantity, the unit price, the terms of sale, and the total money amount due. The Saudi Customs Authority requires that commercial invoices to be issued on CIF basis (cost, insurance and freight). If products are sold on FOB (free on board) basis, the Saudi importers will have to pay for the freight and insurance costs and submit the invoices to the Saudi Customs along with commercial invoices when the consignment arrives at the Saudi port of entry. The Saudi Customs requires the CIF information for imported food products in order to assess accurate levies and import duties. Shipments are normally cleared in less than ten days provided all documents are in order and imported products meet Saudi standards and specifications.

Bill of lading

A document issued on behalf of the carrier describing the kind and quantity of goods being shipped, the shipper, the consignee, the port of loading and discharge and the carrying vessel. It serves as a document of title, a contract of carriage, and a receipt for goods.

Country of Origin Certificate

This certificate is issued by an exporting company and should provide, among other things, information such as name and address of both exporting and importing companies, country of destination, name, and quantity of product(s) exported. The country of origin certificate is required by the Saudi Customs Authority to determine whether or not customs charges, waivers, or other preferential treatment applies to the imported product and to make sure products from countries banned from exporting to the Kingdom are prevented entry into the Saudi market. Saudi Arabia imposes import bans mostly for human health and phytosanitary concerns.

Packing List or Certificate of Weight

Seed and grain importers request either a packing list or certificate of weight as one of the required import documents. A packing list is not required for processed foodstuffs, but is highly recommended for expediting customs clearance. Both the packing list and the certificate of weight provide information related to marks and numbers and other important information about the shipment.

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

Live Horses

Health Certificate

An official health certificate issued by a USDA-approved competent veterinarian who is certified to carry out export certification must accompany horses exported from the United States to Saudi Arabia. A USDA veterinarian must endorse the health certificate issued. The health certificate must confirm that the horses are free from diseases, were quarantined for 30 days prior to export, were given all required vaccinations and were pre-export tested. Detailed requirements for permanent importation of horses from the United States into Saudi Arabia are found in Appendix I.

Live Bovine Animals, Camels, Sheep and Goats

Livestock importers (live bovine animals, camels, sheep and goats) must obtain an import permit from the Saudi MOA's Animal and Plant Quarantine Department before shipments leave the exporting country. Livestock shipments must be accompanied by country of origin and health certificates from a recognized authority in the country of origin duly authenticated by the Saudi embassy in that country.

Health Certificate

In the United States, a USDA authorized veterinarian issues official health certificates declaring that the exported livestock is free from diseases. This certificate shall contain among other things names and addresses of both exporting and importing companies and complete identification of the livestock to be exported. The health certificate should provide the following detailed information:

1. Confirm the following:

- All imported animals are epidemic free and infectious disease free
- General health status of the imported animal
- Date of the vaccinations specified by the Ministry upon application for the import license
- Veterinary inspection for all imported animals within 24 hours prior to shipping
- All other prerequisites necessary for import license applicants

2. Port of departure of shipped animals must be one of the ports inside the country of origin, directly to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with no anchorage or call to any other port, place or country which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has declared infected by epidemic diseases and therefore banned from animal imports to the kingdom.

3. A report, which content must be known to the shipper, must be submitted to indicate the following:

- Status of animal health throughout the journey, showing deaths and any occurrences of disease
- The shipped animals have not come through places or countries banned by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- The shipped animals have not mixed with other infected animals

4. Veterinary inspection shall be conducted upon arrival at any Saudi port. The whole shipment shall be rejected if it is infected with any of the diseases listed in table 1. Refer to Appendix II.

5. Shipment may be quarantined upon detection of any disease mentioned in table No. 2 if the percentage of infection does not exceed 10 percent of the random sample inspected. If, however, the percentage exceeds 10 percent, the shipment will be refused entry. Refer to Appendix II.

6. MOA may ban importation from any country or area as per the health status of that country or area according to decisions taken by the competent international organizations.

Poultry and Livestock Meat

Health Certificate

An official agency responsible for issuing health certificates should declare that 1) the meat is derived from healthy animals slaughtered at an officially approved slaughterhouse and under the direct supervision of the responsible official government agency, 2) the animals have not been fed with feed manufactured with animal protein or fat or animal remains, 3) the feed used comply with the approved standards, and 4) the animals were not subjected to growth hormones that do not comply with the levels mentioned in the approved standards.

Temporary Ban on Poultry Products Imports from several U.S. States

For the last several months, the SFDA has imposed temporary import bans on U.S. poultry and egg products from U.S. states that have confirmed the presence of the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in their poultry farms. The states affected by the Saudi ban include Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Oregon, California, Washington State, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Nebraska. The temporary ban imposed on the individual state is effective until these states are officially declared free from HPAI. The SFDA's import ban excludes poultry and products that are thermally treated and certified by a competent authority (FSIS) to be free from HPAI. The FSIS Export Library for Saudi Arabia lists the names of U.S. states that are ineligible for exporting uncooked poultry and their products to Saudi Arabia because of the outbreak of HPAI.

In June 2015, a delegation of USDA/APHIS visited the SFDA office in Riyadh to provide an update on the HPAI situation that affected several U.S. States. The delegation discussed some risk mitigations and control measures that the USDA has put in place to limit the impact of HPAI infected states on their poultry exports. The delegation asked SFDA to limit its poultry import bans only to counties that have been affected by the HPAI, instead of the state-wide bans it has imposed. The SFDA promised to consider APHIS' request for limiting the import bans to a county level, as the HPAI inflection in the U.S. slowed down and several of the impacted states/counties have already been cleared for export.

Animal Protein Free Verification (APFV) Program for Poultry

The SFDA regulations for poultry meat production require that health certificate accompanying shipments of poultry meat must clearly indicate that the birds slaughtered had not been fed with animal protein, animal fats, or any animal byproducts. In order for FSIS to issue the required animal protein free certification, U.S. exports of poultry and poultry products to the Kingdom should come from slaughter facilities that participate in the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) Animal Protein Free Verification (APFV) Program for Poultry. Information about this program can be found at [AMS' Website](#).

Ban on Imports of U.S. Beef and Beef Products

The SFDA has imposed an import ban on U.S. beef which is still in effect since May 2012, following the discovery of a BSE case in a dairy cow in California. Although major progress has been made in recent months as a result of discussions between U.S. and Saudi technical experts, a few obstacles remain towards the final lifting of the import ban on U.S. beef. These remaining issues include SFDA requirements that animal feed used for feeding the cattle should be certified that it does not contain protein from animal origin as well as SFDA's proposal to limit U.S. beef and beef products from cattle with age less than 30 months.

Other Bans

For religious reasons, Saudi Arabia bans imports of alcoholic beverages, live swine, pork and food ingredients or additives that contain pork products, including pork fat, rennet and gelatin. Meat and poultry shipments must be accompanied by a "Halal" slaughter certificate issued by an Islamic center in the country of origin.

Halal Slaughter Certificate

This certificate indicates that slaughter has taken place in an officially licensed slaughterhouse and in accordance with Islamic Law (Shari'ah) procedures. Islamic institutions recognized by the Saudi Embassy or Consulates in the United States issue the Halal slaughtering certificate. Information related to the approved Islamic institutions may be obtained from the Saudi Embassy in Washington or the nearest Saudi Consulate (New York, Houston, or Los Angeles). The concerned health authority must stamp several parts of slaughtered animals. Age of the slaughtered livestock should not exceed three years for lamb and five years for beef and only meat of male livestock is imported. Exporters should comply with prevailing Saudi rules and regulations regarding the procedure for cutting, shipping, and storing meat shipped to the Kingdom. A sample Halal certificate is shown Appendix III.

Fish and Seafood

Health Certificate

A health certificate for fish and seafood must attest that the imported product meets the following sanitary requirements:

Sea food products are for human consumption and derived from a zone/establishment free from fish contagious diseases

Sea products have normal organoleptic characteristics, comply with all Saudi and/or international standards and is fit for human consumption

Sea products have been processed in an approved establishment under official health supervision

On basis of a national follow-up control scheme, sea products comply with importing country- of-origin or international standards regarding residues of chemical contaminants

The certificate must be stamped and signed by an official inspector. Please refer to Appendix IV for a sample official health certificate

Dairy Products

Health Certificate

Any government official responsible for dairy inspection must state that the dairy product was manufactured on government approved and registered premises and is subject to regular audits or inspections. It certifies that the product at the time of shipment contains no harmful level of contaminants including dioxins and is fit for human consumption. It also certifies that the milk and milk based product(s) have undergone a recognized pasteurization process with the aim of avoiding public health hazards arising from pathogenic organisms associated with milk and the product can be freely sold for human consumption in the exporting country. Other information included on the health certificate includes a trader reference number, generic product name, product description, approval of

manufacturer/packer, manufacturer's address, packer's address, consignor, consignee, country of manufacture, type of packing, net weight, quantity, production codes, place of dispatch, date of dispatch, destination, and expiry date.

Health certificates for dairy products must contain the following declarations:

- 1) The milk/dairy products described above have been processed from raw milk/powdered milk obtained from animals free from contagious diseases and fit for human consumption.
- 2) All dairy products have been processed and packaged in an approved establishment under official health control.
- 3) On basis of a national follow-up control scheme, the dairy product complies with the importing country of origin or international standards regarding residues of chemical contaminants, such as dioxin, pesticides, veterinary drugs etc., and no harmful colorants or preservative agents (according to codex alimentarius) were added to these products.
- 4) Complies with the importing country or international standards for bacteria count.
- 5) In case of heat treatment: done in a way to obtain the destruction of pathogens.

With regard to radioactivity: contains no harmful radioactivity, or not more than the accepted level, for the milk and milk products.

- 6) The declaration must be signed and stamped by an official inspector. SFDA accepts VS-16-4 certificates issued by veterinarians working for APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) for U.S. dairy product exports. Please refer to Appendix V for a copy of an official health certificate.

Veterinary Certificate

An exporting country government veterinary inspector's declaration that the exporting country is free of foot-and-mouth disease, anthrax, rinderpest and all the other diseases on the "Office International des Epizooties" (OIE.) list A to which the bovine species is susceptible. It addition, it must state that milk is derived from cows in which BSE has not been officially identified at the time of collection and that bovine herds are subject to official control and official brucellosis and tuberculin testing. It further states that bovine herds were not fed with protein derived from animal ruminant and the exporting country is free of enzootic bovine leukosis.

Certificate of Radioactivity Measurement

A competent exporting country radiation protection institute certifies that the products detailed on the certificate contain total radiocaesium concentrations within officially established levels and are fit for human consumption. Other information provided on the certificate includes product description, quantity, manufacturer, consignor, order number, destination, official stamp and the signature of a

competent official. Radiation and dioxin free requirements apply to dairy products imported from Europe, Japan and former Soviet Republics. Shipments from the United States are exempt from these requirements.

Table Eggs and Egg Products

The Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry requires that imported table eggs and egg products are accompanied by health and country-of-origin certificates. The official health certificate should provide the following information:

- 1) The egg products have been processed to ensure the destruction of all pathogen agents, especially salmonella.
- 2) The egg products have been processed against any recontamination before and after processing.
- 3) The egg products have been processed in an approved establishment under official health supervision.
- 4) On basis of a national follow-up control scheme, the egg products comply with the importing country-of-origin or international standards regarding residue of chemical contaminants, such as dioxins, pesticides, veterinary drugs etc., or any other contaminations.
- 5) No harmful colorants or preservative agents (according to Codex Alimentarius) have been added to the egg products.
- 6) The health certificate must be signed and stamped by a local official inspector. Please refer to Appendix VI for a copy of an official egg product health certificate.

Fruits and Vegetables

Phytosanitary Certificate

This certificate must accompany all shipments of fresh fruit and vegetables to the Kingdom certifying that the products are inspected and/or tested according appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests. USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issue this certificate.

Processed Foods

Health Certificate

The exporting company certifies on its letterhead that the products have been grown, processed, or manufactured under conditions that comply with the sanitary and health laws of the United States of America. It further declares that the goods are radiation free, and that their sale for human consumption in the supplier's country has been authorized. The firm verifies that the merchandise is fit for human consumption. It is important to note that the exporting company on its letterhead issues health certificates for high value products, with the exception of dairy and meat products. Since dairy and meat products can be easily contaminated, they are tested for bacterial and other contaminants by official exporting country government inspectors. Processed foods that are not covered by Saudi Arabian or GCC countries standards must meet Codex or country of origin standards.

The certificate also contains marks and numbers (shipment booking number, container size, container number, seal number, and quantities and list of exported products, production and expiration dates, destination, country of origin, names and addresses of the shipper and receiver, mode of shipment, signature of the exporter and seal of chamber of commerce or notary public). Refer to appendix VII for processed foodstuff labeling and packaging requirements.

Pesticide Residue

In 2014, SFDA rejected several containers of grape leaves allegedly for containing levels of pesticide residue higher than the maximum allowable level of 0.01 mg/kg, which disqualified several U.S. shipments of grape leaves from entering the Saudi market. Most of the U.S. brands of grape leaves are now back in the Saudi market, and reportedly meet the SFDA's maximum pesticide residue level of 0.01 mg/kg.

Ochratoxin Level in Food Products

In the absence of SFDA or Gulf Standardizations Organization (GSO) regulations, Saudi Arabia applies food regulations of exporting countries or internationally recognized bodies such as Codex Alimentarius, EU or FDA to determine the safety level of imported food products and their fitness for human consumption. For instance, SFDA does not have a specification or regulation that limits Ochratoxin level in food products. In 2014, the authority rejected several shipments of U.S. Paprika sauce by implementing an EU regulation that limits the Ochratoxin level in food products to 15 microgram per kg. The SFDA has opted to implement EU standard, since the U.S. (exporting country) does not have any standard for Ochratoxin levels in Paprika sauces. This SFDA's requirement has disqualified U.S. shipments of paprika sauce worth \$2 million from entering the Saudi market for failing to meet the EU maximum limit of 15 microgram per kg for paprika sauce.

Rejection of Misleading Health Benefit Statements on Food Labels

In early 2015, the SFDA started to strictly implement its 2011 regulation that bans "misleading health benefits claims" on labels of prepackaged food products, resulting in Customs clearance refusal of several shipments of U.S. breakfast cereal containing health claims such as "May help to reduce cholesterol". The SFDA said that these nutritional or health benefit claims are unverifiable, thus misleading for consumers. Similarly, product packages containing the logo of the American Heart Association have been refused Customs clearance for similar reasons. SFDA also bans imports of

prepackaged food products containing alcoholic connotations such as “cocoa liqueur” as an ingredient. This requirement has practically prevented the imports of some high qualities U.S. chocolate products.

The SFDA indicated that its decision to ban “misleading health benefits claims” is based on the following three articles of the GSO 9/2007 “Labeling of prepackaged food stuffs “

- Article 7/1/5: legally or forbidden names, symbols, marks or photos shall not be used.
- Article 8/1: information written on the label of food products shall not contain any statements having drug or treatment characteristics.
- Article 4/2: any foodstuff shall not be described or offered for sale with any label which may be deceptive, misleading or false or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its nature or characteristics in any aspect.

More information on this and other Saudi food regulations and requirements are available in our report on Saudi Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards-Narrative at this link:

<http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Lists/Advanced%20Search/AllItems.aspx>

Novel Foods

The following documents must be presented prior to the importation of novel food items to Saudi Arabia.

- Reliable scientific evidence authenticated by recognized official bodies to confirm the safety of the food for human consumption including: Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI), possible warnings in case of intake by a high risk population and also warnings if a food ingredient has exceeded its Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA).
- Reliable information on the criteria upon which the method of use has been based.
- Ingredient analysis results from accredited labs confirming that the product is fit for human consumption and free from any health hazards.
- A Free Sale Certificate testifying that the product with its components and ingredients is freely sold in one of the countries which apply Codex standards or EU legislations.
- A pledge of full responsibility towards the product after its entry to the market and commitment to follow any relevant circulars, standards or regulations that SFDA officially publishes in the future.

Planting Seed

Phytosanitary Certificate

The purpose of this certificate is to verify that the seeds exported to Saudi Arabia are free from agricultural diseases. The certificate is obtained from the USDA. The certificate certifies that the plants, part of plants or products or other regulated articles described on the certificate have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests specified by Saudi Arabia. Other information on the certificate includes treatment data, names and addresses of the exporter and importer, name of the seed and quantity declared, botanical name of the seed, number and description of package, distinguishing marks, place of origin, means of shipment, declared port of entry and name, signature and seal of authorized officer.

Seed Analysis Certificate

This certificate is to prove the degree of purity of the seeds shipped to Saudi Arabia and is issued by USDA and conforms to ISTA rules. The most important information the certificate must include is name and address of seller, kind of seed, seed class, quantity of sampled seed, importing country, results of inspection and percentage of germination, purity, impurity, moisture, etc. and confirmation that the seeds are free from insects, epidemic, diseases and weed seeds. Please refer to Appendix VIII for detailed official seeds import requirements.

Certificate of Weight or Packing List

This certificate should be issued by the exporting company indicating the name and address of the Saudi importer, invoice number, the name of the shipping vessel, port of loading, port of discharge, number/unit of bags, name of commodity, lot number, and weight of shipment.

Mandatory Requirements for Genetically Engineered (GE) Planting Seeds

In October 2011, Saudi Arabia rescinded its ban on the imports of GE planting seeds when it implemented the Gulf Standardization Organization's (GSO) technical regulations on the import of genetically engineered (GE) unprocessed agricultural products (GSO 2141/2011). The GSO technical regulations call for biotech labeling, if the GE content in the planting seed exceeds one percent. Although the GSO biotech regulations allow the importation of biotech planting seeds, no Saudi companies have shown interest in importing biotech planting seeds.

Biotech Certificate

Biotech seed exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for planting seeds. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in seed are approved in the country of origin for planting seeds and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.

Grain and Feed

Phytosanitary Certificate

The purpose of this certificate is to verify that the grains exported are free from quarantine pests. This certificate is required to accompany all shipments of grain, grain flour and animal feed. The Kingdom requires that the certificate be issued by a responsible government agency such as USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA). The certificate is issued on the letterhead of an official government agency responsible for inspecting exported grains. The certificate contains at least a description of consignment, names and addresses of exporter and importer, declared means of transport, place of origin, place of entry, name of product, number and description of packages and distinguishing marks, botanical name, declared quantity, and the following declaration:

This is to certify that the plants, part of plants or products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

Other information provided on the certificate includes additional declaration if any, disinfestations or disinfections treatment, chemical active ingredient, concentration, duration and temperature, date, seal and signature of issuing official.

Analysis or Quality Certificate

This certificate is to verify that the imported grain meets the importers' quality specifications. An importing company hires a grain inspector in the country of origin to carry out loading supervision and sampling submission to laboratory for quality ascertainment. The certificate shows type and quantity of exported grain, name of vessel, shipper, port of loading, port of discharge, consignee, notification address, documentary credit number, sampling method, analysis result. The results show contents of moisture, foreign matters, damaged kernels, broken kernels, weevils kernels, grade of the grain, and aflatoxin level. Other information included on the certificate is stowage and the date loading is completed. A quality certificate is issued on the grain inspector's letterhead.

Certificate of Weight

This certificate is issued by a grain inspector hired by the Saudi company or grain supplier indicating the grain type and quantity, name of shipping vessel, port of loading, port of discharge, name and address of the Saudi importer, weight ascertainment method, total ascertained weight, stowage information and the date loading was completed.

Fumigation Certificate

A hired grain fumigation company issues this certificate. The certificate attests that the mentioned quantity and type of exported grain were fumigated on the indicated date. It also provides other pertinent information such as loading port, port of discharge, bill of lading date, documentary credit number, vessel name, holds fumigated, fumigant used, dosage, exposition time, shipper name, consignee name, notify address, date the certificate of issued, signature and seal of the issuing company.

Mandatory Requirements for GE Grains

In October 2011, Saudi Arabia implemented GSO 2141/2011 technical regulation for unprocessed agricultural products which calls for biotech labeling if GE contents in grains and feed exceed one percent. Prior to the adoption of the GSO biotech regulations, Saudi Arabia has implemented for ten years its own biotech labeling requirements for feed grains that tested positive for biotech content of more than 0.9 percent.

Biotech Certificate

Biotech grain and feed exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for human or animal consumption. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in the grain and feed are approved in the country of origin for human or animal use and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.

Forest Products

International Conformity Certification Program

In 1995, the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry established a program to regulate and monitor selected categories of products such as forest products exported to Saudi Arabia. The program is known as the International Conformity Certification Program (ICCP) and requires imported product to be in compliance with established SASO or internationally approved equivalents. Below is a guideline for the ICCP.

1. Special laboratories will be used as an alternative mechanism for certifying the conformity of imported goods to established standards, after the special laboratories have been approved for examination purposes.
2. The conformity certificate should be issued by authorized special laboratories at the country of origin. Such conformity certificates should accompany all the consignments of imported goods (forest products) certifying their conformity to the established standard (technical regulations). The certificate should confirm that these goods were subjected to a regular laboratory examination under supervision of the competent control agency in the country of origin. The entity should be fully responsible for the contents of this certificate. The producing company should assume full responsibility for all damages happening as a result of using such goods. Random samples may be taken from the imported consignments on their arrival to the Kingdom's ports in order to ascertain the veracity of the certificate. Please refer to Appendix IX for ICCP standard form.

SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE'S LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The required certificates must accompany all imported agricultural products at the time of entry, and the certificates are valid until the products are cleared through Saudi Customs. One export document is valid only for one shipment and cannot be used for clearing multiple shipments. The Saudi government accepts only manufacturers or exporters export declaration as certifications for country of origin, health certificate for most processed foodstuffs and commercial invoice declarations. Health certificates for beef, poultry and dairy products are issued by competent government authorities. On the other hand, official certificates issued by U.S. states are accepted as long as the certifying departments are competent and authorized by federal counterparts to issue export certificates. The Saudi government has no intention, at least at this time, to derogate export certificates. As such, Saudi Customs does not allow clearances of agricultural products if all required certificates do not accompany them.

SECTION V. OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

Depending on the nature of exported goods to Saudi Arabia, or according to a request from the Saudi importer, some additional certifications may be required. Some of the additional documentations that may be required are discussed below:

Food Manufacturer's Ingredients Certificate

The food manufacturer's ingredients certificate is usually required when the labeling information on the packaged product is incomplete or does not provide adequate information about the imported product. The certificate, if requested, should include description of exported food products (contents and percentage of each ingredient), chemical data, microbiological standards, storage, and life of product (date of manufacturing and date of expiration). When products contain any animal fats, the certificate must confirm the kind of animal from which it is taken or state that no pork meat or its artificial flavor nor its animal fat is being used.

Certificate of Free Sale

Saudi importers may sometime request a certificate of free sale for certain agricultural products. The certificate mainly states that a product is known to be sold freely in the supplying country and regulated by a governing body responsible for that particular product.

Consumer Protection Certificate

This certificate must confirm the healthiness of the various ingredients used in the exported food products as well as declare their safety and fitness for human consumption. This certificate must be obtained from a responsible government agency such as USDA or one of its local offices, and it must be signed.

Certification Required for Products not listed on the Export Certificate Table

For agricultural products not listed in the above table, the Kingdom has not yet issued import requirements or the requirements are not available for distribution by the concerned Saudi government

agency when this report was written. For products where national standards are not established, the Kingdom accepts country of origin or international requirements. U.S. exporters wishing to export agricultural products for which the Kingdom has not yet issued quality standards should request the potential Saudi importer to approach the concerned authority and obtain specific import requirements.

Document Notarization

Depending on the types of certificate required for a particular agricultural product, the following documents must be signed by an authorized person or agent and authenticated by the local U.S. Chamber of Commerce located in the city or area where the exporting firm is based.

- Phytosanitary Certificate (for animal, plant, seed and grains)
- Country of Origin Certificate
- Health Certificate for processed food products
- Halal Slaughter Certificate
- Halal Certificate for meat and cheese products if the rennet used in the cheese is of animal origin.
- Radiation Free Certificate (for foodstuffs imported from former USSR countries, Japan and Europe.) Dioxin Free Certificate (for foodstuffs imported from Europe (usually dioxin free statement is included in the health certificate).
- Quality Analysis Certificate for Grains
- Seed Analysis Certificate
- Official Biotech Positive Certificate
- Fumigation Certificate
- Veterinary Certificate
- Commercial Invoice

Other required export documents, including a bill of lading, a packing list and weight certificate do not need notarization.

APPENDIX I. CONDITIONS FOR IMPORTATION OF HORSES FROM THE U.S.

Conditions for the permanent importation of horses into the kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the United States of America:

- 1) Permission to import must be obtained from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) MOA, Quarantine Department before shipment leaves the exporting country.
- 2) In order to obtain an import permit, a fully completed import permit application form must be submitted to the Saudi Arabian MOA. At the ministry's discretion, copies of test results and proof of vaccinations may also be requested.
- 3) Pre- export isolation: during the 30 days immediately prior to export the horses must be held in an isolation facility approved by USDA.
- 4) Pre- export Tests. The horse must be subjected to the following blood tests with negative results:
 - a. Coggins test for equine infectious anemia – see paragraph III (j) of the attached model health certificate for details.
 - b. The Serum Neutralization Test for Equine Viral Arteritis with negative result at a dilution of 1 in 4. (This test is required for uncastrated male horses only.) See paragraph III (e) (v) of the attached model health certificate for details.
 - c. Vesicular Stomatitis – where appropriate – see paragraph III (i) of the attached Model Health Certificate for options.
 - d. Western and Eastern Encephalomyelitis – where appropriate – see attached Model Health Certificate for options.

The above tests are to be carried out in a laboratory approved for that purpose by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

5) Vaccinations:

- a. All horses must be fully vaccinated against Equine Influenza – see paragraph III (m) of the attached Model Health Certificate for details.
 - b. Note: original certification showing proof of primary and all booster vaccinations, given in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations, must travel with the horse.
 - c. Other vaccinations may also be necessary - see Model Health Certificate for details.
- 6) West Nile Fever – Horses which are resident in States/provinces where the West Nile Virus has been found require additional certification, see paragraph III (o).

7) Health Certificate

When horses are sent to KSA an official Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian approved by the USDA to carry out export certification and endorsed by a Federal Veterinarian must accompany them. The certificate should be in similar form to, and contain all the information in the certificate attached at Annex A. to these conditions. Please read the certificate carefully to ensure that all parts are fully complied with. Dates must be inserted and deletions made where appropriate.

- 8) Quarantine on Arrival: On arrival in the KSA the horse will be subjected to a minimum of 6 days isolation in an officially approved Isolation Center and will be subjected to further tests at the discretion of the MOA. Should the horse fail any of the tests, or fail to comply with the conditions of import, including failure to provide proper certification it may be required to be re-exported at the owners' expense or destroyed. All horses must arrive by air at one of the approved international airports (Riyadh or Jeddah) unless special authority is granted for landing elsewhere.

Sample Copy of Import Certificate for Horses

For the permanent import of horses into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the United States of America:

No. of Certificate.....

Third Country of dispatch: (1)
.....

Ministry Responsible:
.....

I. Identification of the animal

Species:

Horse

Breed

Age

Sex/Color

Method of identification and identification (*)

(*) A passport identifying the equine animal should be attached to this certificate provided that its number is stated.

(a) No. of identification document (Passport):

(b) Validated by:

(Name of competent authority)

II. Origin and destination of the animal

The animal is to be sent from:

(Place of export)

Directly to:
(Place of destination)

By aircraft: (3)
(indicate means of transport & registration marks, flight number or registered name, as appropriate)

Name and address of Consignor:

Name and address of Consignee:

III. Health Information

I, the undersigned, certify that the animal described above meets the following requirements:

- (a) It comes from a country where the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable: African Horse Sickness, Dourine, Glanders, Equine Encephalomyelitis (of all types including VEE), Equine Infectious Anemia, Vesicular Stomatitis, Rabies, and Anthrax.
- (b) It has been examined today and shows no clinical sign of diseases; (2)
- (c) It is not intended for slaughter under a national program of infectious or contagious disease eradication;
- (d) During the three months immediately preceding the exportation (or since birth if the animal is less than three months old or since entry if it was imported directly from the European Community during the previous three months) it has been resident on holdings under veterinary supervision in the United States of America and 30 days prior to dispatch apart from equidae not of equivalent health status, in USDA approved isolation premises.
- (e) It comes from the territory or in cases of official regionalization according to Community legislation from a part of the territory of a third country in which:
 - I) Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has not occurred during the last two years;
 - II) Dourine has not occurred during the last six months;
 - III) Glanders has not occurred during the last six months;
 - IV) either Vesicular Stomatitis has not occurred during the last six months (3) or the animal was tested on a sample of blood taken within 21 days of export on(4) by a virus neutralization test for Vesicular Stomatitis with negative results at a dilution of 1 in 12 (3);
 - v) in the case of an uncastrated male animal older than 180 days, either Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) has not been officially recorded during the last six months (3),
or

the animal was tested on a sample of blood taken within 21 days of export on(4) by a virus neutralization test for EVA, with negative result at a dilution of 1 in 4 (3), or an aliquot of its entire semen taken within 21 days of export on(4) was tested by a virus isolation test for EVA with negative result (3), or the animal was vaccinated on(4) against Equine Viral Arteritis under official veterinary supervision with a vaccine approved by the competent authority, according to the following program for initial vaccination and has been re-vaccinated at regular intervals (3).

Programs for initial vaccination against Equine Viral Arteritis:

Instruction:

Cross out vaccination programs that do not apply to the animal described above. Verify supporting certification on testing before vaccination, and re- vaccination.

a) Vaccination was carried out on the day a blood sample was taken that subsequently proved negative in a virus neutralization test at a dilution of 1:4.

or

b) Vaccination was carried out during a period of isolation of not more than 15 days under official veterinary supervision, commencing on the day a blood sample was taken that was tested during that time with negative result in a virus neutralization test at a dilution of 1:4.

or

c) Vaccination was carried out when the animal was at an age of 180 to 270 days, during a period of isolation under official veterinary supervision. During the isolation period two blood samples taken at least 10 days apart proved a stable or declining antibody titer in a virus neutralization test for equine viral arteritis.

(d) It does not come from the territory or from a part of the territory of a third country considered, in accordance with EEC legislation, as infected with African horse sickness, and either it was not vaccinated against African horse sickness (3) or it was vaccinated against African horse sickness on(3)(4).

(e) It does not come from a holding, which was subject to prohibition for animal health reasons, nor had contact with equidae from a holding, which was subject to prohibition for animal health reasons:

I) during six months in the case of equine encephalomyelitis, beginning on the date on which the equidae suffering from the disease are slaughtered;

II) in the case of equine infectious anemia, until the date on which the infected animals having been slaughtered, the remaining animals have shown a negative reaction to two Coggins tests carried out three months apart;

III) during six months in the case of vesicular stomatitis;

IV) during one month from the last recorded case, in the case of rabies;

V) during 15 days from the last recorded case, in the case of Anthrax or if all animals of species susceptible to the disease located on the holding have been slaughtered and the premises disinfected, the period of prohibition shall be 30 days, beginning on the day on which the animals were destroyed and the premises disinfected, except in the case of anthrax, where the period of prohibition is 15 days.

(h) It shows no clinical signs of contagious equine metritis (CEM) and it does not come from a holding where there has been any suspicion of CEM during the past two months nor had contact indirectly or directly through coitus with equidae infected or suspected of being infected with CEM;

(i) To the best of my knowledge, it has not been in contact with equidae suffering from an infectious or contagious disease in the 15 days prior to this declaration;

(j) It was subjected to the following test carried out with negative results on a sample of blood taken within 21 days of export on(4)

a Coggins test for equine infectious anemia;

(k) Either it was not vaccinated against Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, (3) or it was vaccinated on (4) this being at least six months prior to pre-export isolation; (3)

(l) Either it was vaccinated against western and eastern equine encephalomyelitis with inactivated vaccine on(3)(4) this being within six months of and at least 30 days prior to export or it was subjected to haemagglutination inhibition tests to western and eastern equine encephalomyelitis on two occasions, carried out on samples of blood taken with an interval of 21 days on(4) and on(4), the second of which must have been taken within 10 days of export, either with negative reactions, if it has not been vaccinated, or with no increase in antibody count, if it has been vaccinated more than six months ago.(3) (m) During the 60 days immediately prior to export, but not within 14 days of export, the horse received:

Either (i) two primary vaccinations against equine influenza, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations (3) (5).

Dates of vaccination 1..... 2.....
Type(s) of vaccine Batch No(s)

or

(ii) it received a booster dose to a certified previous course of primary vaccination (5).

Date of booster vaccination
Type(s) of vaccine Batch No(s)

(n) The horse has not been, during the last 30 days, in any state in which vesicular stomatitis (VS) has been diagnosed in the previous 6 months; has not been in contact with livestock that has been, during the last 30 days, in any state in which VS has been diagnosed in the last 6 months; has not been in contact with livestock that has been resident on infected holdings in the last 60 days.

(o) During the 30 days immediately prior to export:

either

i) It has not been resident in any State/province in which evidence of West Nile virus has been found in the previous 6 months,

OR

ii. a) It has not been resident on any premises where clinical cases of West Nile fever have been identified during this time AND b) It has been treated with an insect repellent, effective against WNV vectors, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, during any period, in the 15 days immediately prior to export, that the horse was in a State/province in which evidence of West Nile virus has been found in the previous 6 months.

Name of product active ingredient(s).....

iii. It was not vaccinated against West Nile virus, or it was vaccinated against West Nile virus with an inactivated vaccine on at least two occasions at an interval of between 21 to 42 days, the last vaccination being carried out not later than 30 days prior to dispatch on

iv. The animal will be sent in a vehicle cleaned and disinfected in advance, with a disinfectant officially recognized in the country of dispatch, and designed in a way that droppings, litter or fodder cannot escape during transportation.

The following declaration signed by the owner or representative is part of the certificate.

V. The certificate is valid for 10 days.

Date Place Stamp (*) and signature of the official veterinarian

(Name in block letters, qualification and title)

(*) The color of the stamp must be different to that of the printing.

(1) Part of territory in accordance with Article 12 (2) of Council Directive 90/426/EEC.

(2) This certificate must be issued on the day of loading of the animal for dispatch to the Member State of destination or, in the case of a registered horse, on the last working day before embarkation.

(3) Delete as appropriate.

(4) Insert Date – In the case of a registered equine animal, tests carried out, their results and vaccination have to be entered in the identification document (passport)

Declaration

I, the undersigned(insert name in block capitals)
(owner or representative of the animal described above)

Declare:

1. The horse will be sent from the premises of dispatch to the premises of destination without coming into contact with other equine not of the same health status. The transportation will be effected in such a way that health and wellbeing of the animal can be protected effectively.

2. The animal has either remained in (exporting country) since birth or entered the exporting country at least 90 days prior to this declaration.

.....

(Place, date)

(Signature)

Appendix II. List of Livestock Diseases

Table: 1

Imported animals infected with the following diseases will be rejected right away without permission to unload at quarantine area:

1. Foot and mouth disease
2. Vesicular Stomatitis
3. Rinderpest
4. Pests des petits ruminants
5. Lump skin disease
6. Rift valley fever

7. Bluetongue
8. Sheep pox
9. Goat pox
10. Rabies
11. Aujeszky's disease
12. Louping – ill
13. Akabane disease
14. Camel pox
15. Malignant catarrhal fever
16. Ephemeral fever
17. Caprine arthritis/encephalitis
18. Maedi-visna
19. Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
20. Scrapie
21. Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
22. Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia
23. Anthrax
24. Brucellosis
25. Tuberculosis
26. Leptospirosis
27. Paratuberculosis
28. Enzootic bovine leucosis
29. Pasteurellosis
30. Contagious agalactia
31. Enzootic abortion of ewes
32. Listeriosis
33. Heartwater
34. New world screwworm
35. Old world screwworm

Table: 2

Animals infected with the following diseases can be kept in quarantine areas provided the infestation rate does not exceed 10 percent of random samples tested:

1. Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis
2. Bovine viral diarrhea
3. Contagious pustular dermatitis (Scabby mouth)
4. Ulcerative dermatosis
5. Bovine ulcerative mammillitis
6. Papillomatosis
7. Cow pox
8. Pseudo cowpox

9. Newborn viral enteritis (Rota virus & Corona virus infection)
10. Ovine pulmonary adenomatosis
11. Dermatophilosis
12. Bovine genital campylobacteriosis
13. Caseous lymphadenitis
14. Ovine epididymitis (Brucella ovis) for slaughter animals only
15. Colibacillosis
16. Salmonellosis
17. Actinomycosis
18. Actinobacillosis
19. Calf diphtheria
20. Bovine anaplasmosis
21. Oestrus ovis infestation
22. Oestrus cameli infestation
23. Hypoderma bovis
24. Gastro-intestinal parasitism (Helminthes)
25. Verminous bronchitis (lungworm infestation)
26. Mange
27. Tick infestation
28. Coccidiosis
29. Cryptosporidiosis
30. Echinococcosis\hydatidosis
31. Babesiosis
32. Cysticercosis
33. Theileriosis
34. Trypanosomiasis
35. Filariasis
36. Ringworm

Other certifications that may be required for livestock imported for breeding purposes include certificate of weight to show the average weight of the exported livestock, production records and officially certified pedigree certificate.

APPENDIX III: OFFICIAL MEAT IMPORTS REQUIREMENTS

We (name the body issuing the certificate) testify that the meat is derived from animals slaughtered in an approved and recognized slaughterhouse under the supervision of (name of the official body) and we also testify that:

1. The meat is derived from animals with an average age of (...) and had been tested within the range of 12 hours before and after slaughtering by the official bodies concerned to ensure their safety and fitness for human consumption.
2. The meat is derived from animals born and reared in (name of country of origin) and from herds that are officially registered in (name of the body responsible for registering herds).

3. The meat is from animals, which have never been suspected or proved to be infected with an infectious disease.

4. The meat is prepared, handled, stored and transported according to the approved standards.

5. The meat is supervised through all stages of production, storage, and transportation by the official technician from (name of the official body).

6. The meat is not subjected or stored with products made from regions that do not comply with the conditions mentioned in paragraph 3.

7. The meat is transported from the slaughterhouse to the cutting house and then to the port of export, according to regulations, that does not allow it to pass by or stop at areas where pigs are kept, and the means of transportation should not by at any time used to carry pigs or its meat or products.

8. Within the last three months there is no outbreak of an epidemic in (name of the region or county) and we also declare that:

All cows, veal, goats, sheep and poultry and their meat are subjected to inspection and veterinary examination.

According to the regulations in (name of the country) all infectious diseases are officially notified.

All animal infected with and infectious diseases are completely destroyed.

9. The animals have not been fed with feed manufactured with animal protein or fat or animal remains and the feed comply with the approved standards.

10. The animals were not subjected to growth hormones that do not comply with the levels mentioned in the approved standards.

11. The meat is processed with drugs and veterinary medicine within the levels mentioned in the approved standards.

12. According to the approved standards the meat does not contain any flavoring or coloring substances.

13. All health requirements are available in all abattoirs where cattle and poultry is being slaughtered and prepared for export. Hazard analysis and Critical control point system HACCP should be applied at all production phases at the abattoirs and factories where all kinds of meat and foodstuff are prepared.

Official stamp

Signature

Name of veterinary inspector

Date

Address

Format of Health Certificate for frozen and chilled meat

Name and address of consignor	Certificate No:
Name and address of consignee	No of Seal on the Container/No of Container(s)
Name, address and number for veterinary approval of the slaughterhouse:	Name of Exporting country
Name, address and number for veterinary approval of the Cutting establishment:-	Name of Responsible Ministry
	Health Certificate for export of frozen and chilled meat and (un processed meat) to:

Identification of means of transportation		Local veterinary service in the country of origin			
Type of Meat	Place of loading				
Type of cut					
No of Halal certificate					
		Country and place of Destination			
Trade mark	Type & number of packages	Net weight	Date of expiration	Date of production	Slaughtering date
I the undersigned, authorized person, certify that the good described above meets all the requirements mentioned in the sanitary attestation attached to this document.					Official stamp
Place		Date			
Signature of local official inspector					

Competent Authority Letterhead Certificate for Export of Fresh/Frozen Poultry and Poultry Products to Saudi Arabia

DATE ISSUED _____ CERTIFICATE NUMBER _____

1. The birds were subject to veterinary examination not more than 12 hours prior to and immediately after slaughter and found free from disease and suitable for human consumption.
2. The birds originated from flocks under State supervision for the diseases regulated by the State or the United States Department of Agriculture.
3. The birds for slaughter were given careful veterinary inspection and found free from clinical signs of infectious and contagious disease.
4. The product was prepared, handled, stored and transported under hygienic conditions.

5. The product is in conformity with pertinent United States regulations concerning production, storage, and transport.
6. There have been no outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (fowl plaque), lethal-type Newcastle disease, fowl typhoid and pullorum disease in the State of origin in the 3 months prior to slaughter.
7. The product has not been stored with products that have not passed inspection.
8. The poultry has not been fed with animal-protein, animal fats, or animal by-products.
9. The United States Food and Drug Administration prohibits the use of growth- stimulating hormones in poultry feeds.

Signature of Official Veterinarian_____

Printed Name_____

Title/Professional Degree_____

Sample Halal Certificate

The following information on Halal certification was obtained from a recent Halal certificate issued by a U.S. based approved Islamic Center for export of U.S. beef and poultry meat to Saudi Arabia.

Letter Head of the Islamic Center:

Date Certificate Issued:

Halal Attestation: The Islamic Society hereby certifies that the under mentioned shipment of beef/lamb/poultry: has been slaughtered according to the Islamic Rite. The products have been inspected within 12 hours before and after slaughtering and found to be free from infectious diseases. No animal proteins, fats, bones, animal wastes or growth hormones were used in the fodder of these animals. Products have been inspected and found free of growth stimulants and harmful materials. Accordingly, these products are Halal and suitable for Muslims to consume.

Consignee:

Shipper:

Production Date(s):

Slaughter Date (s):

Expiry Date(s):

Description:

No. of Cases:

Net Weight:

Invoice No.

Signature of the Imam and seal of the Islamic center:

Halal certificate's serial number:

The above information was included on the Islamic center's letter head

Appendix: IV. Health Certificate for Fish and Seafood Products

Name and address of consignor	Certificate No
Approval number, name and address of processing establishment.	Name of Exporting country Name of Responsible Ministry Health Certificate for export of fish and sea products to
Name and address of consignee	Local veterinary service in the country of origin
Identification of means of transportation	Place of loading

			Country and place of Destination		
Species of products	State or type of processing	Type & number of packages	Net weight	Date of production	Date of expiration
<p>I the undersigned, authorized person, certify that the good described above meets all the requirements mentioned in the sanitary attestation attached to this document.</p> <p>Place Date</p> <p>Signature of local official inspector</p> <p>Official stamp</p>					

Name and address of consignor	Certificate No
Approval number, name and address of processing establishment.	Name of Exporting country Name of Responsible Ministry Health Certificate for export of Dairy products to
Name and address of consignee	Local veterinary service in the country of origin
Identification of means of transportation	Place of loading
	Country and place of Destination

Type & number of packages	Description of the milk/milk products and animal species	Date of Production	Date of Expiration	Net weight
<p>I the undersigned, authorized person, certify that the good described above meets all the requirements mentioned in the sanitary attestation attached to this document.</p> <p>Place _____ Date _____</p> <p>Signature of local official inspector _____</p>				<p>Official stamp</p>

APPENDIX VI. HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR EGG AND EGG PRODUCTS

Name and address of consignor	Certificate No
Approval number, name and address of processing establishment	<p>Name of Exporting country</p> <p>Name of Responsible Ministry</p> <p>Health Certificate for export of egg and egg products for human consumption to</p>
Name and address of consignee	Local veterinary service in the country of origin
Identification of means of transportation	Place of loading

			Country and place of Destination		
Name of products (Yolk powder, egg white powder etc...)	Product derived from (Domestic Fowl, other birds)	Type & number of packages	Net weight	Date of production	Date of expiration
I the undersigned, authorized person, certify that the good described above meets all the requirements mentioned in the sanitary attestation attached to this document.					Official stamp
Place		Date			
Signature of local official inspector					

APPENDIX VII. BIOTECH CERTIFICATES

A. Processed Foods

I. Following is a sample certificate issued by a state department of agriculture and accepted by Saudi port authorities:

Certificate of Health and Free Sale, Sanitary and Purity

"I, (name of state official), do hereby certify that (name of U.S. company and address) operates a food manufacturing plant which is inspected at regular intervals by full-time inspectors employed by the (name of state) Department of Agriculture. The facility's equipment and raw materials, as well as the processing and packaging procedure, meets all sanitary requirements and the operation is in good standing in every respect. We certify the following listing of products as freely, and without qualification, sold and used in the United States of America (USA).

This product may contain genetically modified organisms.

This certificate shall be good for one year from the date of issue.

This certificate is not to be construed as either an expression of implied warranty of any products of said company, nor shall it be used for propaganda, advertising, or other simple purposes.

This certificate shall not be altered after the issue date, or it will be deemed void by the (name of state) Department of Agriculture and the undersigned.

(The certificate should be issued with the seal of the State Department of Agriculture, notarized, and signed by the appropriate State Department of Agriculture official)."

B. U.S. Feed Grains, Soybeans and Soybean Meal

Below is GIPSA's one-time grains certification statement accepted by the Saudi MOA in lieu of a shipment-by-shipment biotech certification requirement.

Crop	Statement
Soybeans	<p>We hereby certify that the soybeans may come from genetically modified soybeans of the type Monsanto Roundup Ready Soybeans that have been approved for import into the EEC under directive 96/281/ EC.</p> <p>The soybeans may come from genetically modified soybeans of the type Monsanto Roundup Ready Soybeans.</p> <p>Transgenic soybeans commercially produced in the United States have completed the necessary review under the U.S. regulatory process for determining the safety of new agricultural biotechnology products. This well-coordinated regulatory process sets U.S. standards for human, animal, and plant health, and environmental safety. The transgenic soybeans used for domestic purposes are the same as those used for export.</p>
Corn	<p>Transgenic corn commercially produced in the United States has completed the necessary review under the U.S. regulatory process for determining the safety of new agricultural biotechnology products. This well-coordinated regulatory process sets U.S. standards for human, animal, and plant health, and environmental safety. The transgenic corn used for domestic purposes is the same as corn used for export.</p>
Testing Parameters	<p>The sample was tested using a method equal to or exceeding the performance of the A's GIPSA testing recommendations, as set out in Directive 9181.1.</p>

APPENDIX VIII. PLANTING SEEDS IMPORT REQUIREMENT

A. Vegetable Seeds Import Requirement

The packs may be made of papers or nylon imprinted with the species, class, quality, exporting company, importing merchant, purity ration, germination ratio and date of inspection or otherwise labeled with the same on the back or placed inside an easy to read through nylon bag. Another choice is that many packs can be placed in a cardboard box and labeled with the number of the cases contained and then labeled with details imprinted on the bag. The product shall be free of weed seeds.

Local importer must obtain a written permit prior to seed import from the Saudi MOA's Animal and Plant Quarantine Department.

Following are required certificates and documents for imported planting seeds:

1. Certified certificate of origin
2. Agricultural hygiene certification (containing the same quantity, species and classes) stating that the seeds are free of pests and fungal diseases.
3. Bill of lading or airway bill plus a copy of the commercial invoice.
4. For cucurbitaceae seeds, a certificate that the seeds are virus resistant strains.
5. For bean seeds, a certificate that proves they are free of halook seeds.
6. Disinfectant treatment certificate from the country of origin shall be attached.
7. Biotech seed exported to Saudi Arabia must be approved in the country of origin for planting seeds. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in the production of the planting seed are approved in the country of origin for planting seeds and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.
8. Seeds approved for imports should not arrive at one of Saudi ports before the elapse of 10 days from the date the import permit is
9. This import permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

B. Onion Import Requirements

1. Certificate of origin, duly authenticated by the authorities concerned.
2. Agricultural hygiene certificate of the same number and items certifies that the seeds are free from pests and fungal diseases.

3. Bill of lading or airway bill plus the commercial invoice copy.
4. Disinfectant treatment certificate from the country of origin shall be attached.
5. Seeds approved for imports should not arrive at one of Saudi ports before the elapse of 10 days from the date the import permit is granted.
6. Biotech onion seeds exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for planting seeds. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in onion seeds production are approved in the country of origin for onion seeds and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.
7. This import permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

C. Seedling (nursery plants) imports Requirements

1. Certificate of origin, duly authenticated by the authorities concerned.
2. Bill of lading or airway bill plus commercial invoice copy.
3. Agricultural hygiene certificate of the same number and items certify that the shoots are free from pests and fungal diseases.
4. Soil entry with the shoots is prohibited. Shoots shall be pre-planted into internationally recognized material (petmos), in the agricultural perlite or vermiculite.
5. Shoots shall be labeled with species and class labels.
6. Shoots approved for imports should not arrive at one of Saudi ports before the elapse of 10 days from the date the import permit is granted.
7. Biotech Seedling (nursery plants) exported to Saudi Arabia must be approved in the country of origin for seedling. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the biotech ingredients used in the production of the seedling are approved in the country of origin for planting and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.
8. This import permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

D. Potato Buds (tubers) import Requirements

1. Agricultural hygiene certification (containing the same quantity, species and classes) stating that the seeds are free of viral, bacterial, fungal, insect diseases and 100% free of pseudomonas solanacearum.
2. Bill of lading or airway bill plus a copy of the commercial invoice.
3. Potatoes buds shall be of the type recommended by MOA. They shall be free of radiation.
4. The buds imported for vegetation or production shall be basic seeds-class E, their size shall not be less than 28 ml and not more than 55 mm.
5. The buds shall be received in new labeled 50 kg burlap sacks. Their class shall be imprinted on the sack labels. The experimental buds may be packed in wood boxes of 20-30 kg capacity labeled with the above mentioned information.
6. Buds approved for imports should not arrive at one of Saudi ports before the elapse of 10 days from the date the import permit is granted.
7. Biotech potato seeds (tubers) exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for planting. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the GE potato seed is approved in the country of origin for planting and meets all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.
8. This import permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

E. Grain and Forage Seeds Import Requirements

1. Certified certificate of origin.
2. Bill of lading or Airway bill and the commercial invoice copy.
3. For alfalfa seeds, certificate: of free of weed seeds, certified seeds, investigation certificate from a specialized company, duly authenticated by the Saudi Embassy, stating that the seeds are in accordance with the required conditions and specifications.
4. Seeds shall not arrive at any port in the Kingdom prior to the elapse of 10 days after the date of approval of the import permit.
4. Disinfectant treatment certificate from the country of origin shall be attached.
5. Each package shall be labeled with the purity ratio, germination ratio and date of inspection in Arabic language.
6. Vegetable, cereals and alfalfa seeds from Eastern Europe, Canada and Turkey shall be attached with the Orange International Seed Lot Certificate by ISTA, whereas seeds from

Northern America shall be attached with Federal Lab Certificate. The Lot No. mentioned in the certificate should match that on the packs.

7. Seeds approved for imports should not arrive at one of Saudi ports before the elapse of 10 days from the date the import permit is granted.

8. Biotech grains and forage seeds exported to Saudi Arabia must have been approved in the country of origin for planting. Each shipment must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by competent government agency stating that the GE grains and forage seeds are approved in the country of origin for planting and meet all requirements specified in GSO 2141/2011.

9. This import permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

Note: Although the GSO biotech regulation number 2141/2011 allows the importation of biotech planting seeds, no Saudi companies have shown any interest importing or planting any kind of biotech seed.