

“Gel Bone”
Bovine-Bone Origin for Industrial Purposes

The government of Japan has verified that the following attestations are required on a VS Form 16-4 for bovine origin gel bone (rendered bone chips) imported for industrial purposes. Bovine origin gel bone may not be imported for production of gelatin for animal or human consumption.

Prior to endorsing this certification, Veterinary Services must inspect both the facility where the gel bone is “rendered,” and the facility where the skull and vertebral columns are removed. The skulls and vertebral column from cattle of all ages (even bob veal) must be removed prior to rendering.

Only the following attestations may appear on the VS Form 16-4:

The products described below do not contain bovine skulls or vertebral column (excluding the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, the wings of the sacrum, and the vertebrae of the tail). The products described below are U.S. origin and contain only those animal origin ingredients derived from animals that passed ante-mortem government inspection at slaughter.