

Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission Report September 2015

CHAPTER X.X.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING THE SAFETY OF
COMMODITIES

Article x.x.1.

Assessing the safety of animal products from a country or zone not free from a specific listed disease

For the purposes of this chapter the word 'safety' is applied only to animal health considerations for *listed diseases*.

In many *disease-specific* chapters, Article X.X.2. lists *animal* products that can be traded from a country or *zone* not free from the specific *listed disease*. The criteria for inclusion of *animal* products in the list of safe commodities are based on the absence of the pathogen in the traded *animal* products, either due to its absence in the tissues from which the *animal* products are derived or to its inactivation by the processing or treatment that the *animal* products have undergone.

The assessment of the safety of the *animal* products using the criteria relating to processing or treatment can only be undertaken when processing or treatments are well defined. It may not be necessary to take into account the entire process or treatment, so long as the steps critical for the inactivation of the pathogen of concern are considered.

It is assumed that processing or treatment (i) uses standardised protocols, which include the steps considered critical in the inactivation of the pathogen of concern; (ii) is conducted according to Good Manufacturing Practices; and (iii) that any other steps in the treatment, processing and subsequent handling of the *animal* product do not jeopardise its safety.

Article x.x.2.

Criteria

For an *animal* product to be considered a safe commodity for *international trade*, it should comply with the following criteria:

- 1) There is strong evidence that the pathogen is not present in the tissues from which the *animal* product is derived at a concentration able to cause *infection* in a human or *animal* by a natural exposure route. This evidence is based on the known distribution of the pathogen in an infected *animal*, whether or not it shows clinical signs of *disease*:

OR

- 2) If the pathogen may be present in, or may contaminate, the tissues from which the *animal* product is derived, the processing or treatment normally applied to produce the *animal* product to be traded, while not being specifically directed at this pathogen, inactivates the pathogen to the extent that possible *infection* of a human or *animal* is prevented through its action which is:
 - a) physical (e.g. temperature, drying, irradiation);
 - or
 - b) chemical (e.g. iodine, pH, salt, smoke);
 - or
 - c) biological (e.g. fermentation);
 - or
 - d) a combination of a) to c) above.

— Text deleted.