Tips for Completing VS 16-3

***For faster and easier application submission and review by our office, please utilize our online system, <u>APHIS eFile</u>, to create and submit your application.

Before you fill out your VS Form 16-3

APHIS Veterinary Services has a new tool, the Veterinary Services Permitting Assistant (VSPA), which provides guidance on VS admissibility requirements for international import, international transit, and domestic interstate movement of VS-regulated materials.

The Permitting Assistant does not require any login or special access. Get started today at https://efile.aphis.usda.gov/s/vs-permitting-assistant

Using the VSPA, search for your materials, filter the results based on their characteristics, and add them to your request. Once added, the Permitting Assistant will organize your materials into the appropriate number of required applications.

• Important: the number of VS 16-3 forms required based on how the VSPA has grouped your materials. The last page of this document illustrates how to map your materials when more than one VS 16-3 is required.

The VSPA Request Summary will also provide an estimated processing fee based on your request.

Complete your VS Form 16-3

- 1. VS 16-3 Block #1: Select all that may apply
- 2. VS 16-3 Block #2: Specify the port(s) OR enter "Any U.S. Port". If your application is for a *transit* shipment, you MUST specify the specific port of arrival and the port of exit.
- 3. VS 16-3 Block #3 Provide detailed Importer information (name, organization, complete address, telephone number, fax number and email address) of the individual who will receive and be responsible for the imported material).

*NOTE: The Applicant (Importer) in Block #3 must be the same person that signs the VS Form 16-3 Block #11 Signature of Applicant and Block #12 Typed Name and Title. The exporter cannot apply/submit application for the USDA Import Permit.

- 4. VS 16-3 Block #4 Provide detailed list of the various shippers (exporting company or institution name, address, city and country) from which product will be procured. There is no need to specify the name and address of the company providing transportation services.
- 5. VS 16-3 Block #5 Identify the product to be imported and all animal origin ingredients (ex. gelatin, milk, etc.) in the product. For each animal origin ingredient, identify the species and country(s) of origin of the source animals, the tissue(s) from which the raw animal product was sourced, and the processing country(s).

*NOTE: If using the VSPA, include the first two lines of text from each material listed on your application summary, which includes the material name and animal origin, country of origin, country of processing (if applicable) intended use, and the PR number. For example, "Fresh Unfertilized Eggs of Avian Origin, from Argentina for commercial purposes, PR-012973."

- VS 16-3 Block #5 If the product is a cell culture or product of cell culture indicate here and also complete <u>supplementary form VS 16-7</u>. Submit the VS 16-7 supplement along with your VS 16-3 application.
- 7. VS 16-3 Block #7 Provide information on the proposed use of material and derivatives. If the material will be distributed, please specify here. (Also, for animal pathogens or vectors, describe facilities/biosafety procedures). Example: Commercial/Wholesale, Retail Sale, Research at my facility, to be combined to with other ingredients to make final product, etc.
- 8. VS 16-3 Block #8 If the imported product or a derivative will be used in any animals (including research animals), identify the animal species.
- VS 16-3 Block #9 Provide details of treatment of material prior to importation into the U.S. (Processing/purification methods, including time at specific temperatures, pH, other treatments, disease safeguards, etc.).
- 10. VS 16-3 Block #10 Provide details of method of final disposition of imported material and derivatives (all material will be used, retail, wholesale, autoclave, incinerate, etc.).
- 11. VS 16-3 Block 11 Signature of Applicant is required.
- 12. VS 16-3 Block 12 Typed name and title is required.

VS Form 16-3 and VSPA Applications Summary - Side-by-Side

Veterinary Services Form 16-3

1. VS 16-3 Application

<u>Veterinary Services Permitting Assistant</u> Applications Summary

