



United States
Department of
Agriculture

April 22, 2010

Marketing and
Regulatory Programs

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Directors, Field Operations

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

FROM:

Acting Executive Director, /s/ Dennis Mckenzie
Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison
Office of Field Operations

Veterinary Services

National Center for
Import and Export
4700 River Road
Unit 40
Riverdale, MD 20737

SUBJECT:

Alert – Restrictions on Japan for FMD

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The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), notified U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) that effective immediately APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) is placing temporary restrictions on certain commodities from Japan due to foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), based on notifications from Japan of an outbreak in cattle that is consistent with FMD. These restrictions may be amended as additional epidemiological information is obtained.

Live ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats, camelids, cervids) and live swine from Japan are currently prohibited entry due to Japan's status for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Classical Swine Fever, and Swine Vesicular Disease. However, effective immediately, ruminant and swine semen and embryos presented for entry into the United States from Japan must meet APHIS' additional certification requirements for a country considered to be FMD-affected. Although live equines are not considered to be susceptible to FMD, additional certification statements must now be included in the documentation for live equines, equine embryos, and semen; and for equipment accompanying equines that are presented for entry to the United States from Japan.

Canine semen exported from Japan must also now be accompanied by certification statements regarding the use of extenders.

These additional animal health certifications will be reviewed by VS personnel at ports of entry.

Ruminant meat and meat by-products are currently prohibited from Japan due to BSE, with the exception of boneless cuts of fresh beef, normally referred to as Kobe beef. Effective immediately, boneless/Kobe beef must be refused entry, including in passenger baggage. Fresh pork from Japan is currently prohibited entry due to Swine Vesicular Disease and Classical Swine Fever. Ruminant and swine products and by-products such as milk and milk products, blood/serum, tissues, nutraceuticals, and research samples



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must now be imported accompanied by a VS import permit that lists treatments to mitigate for FMD. Shipments not accompanied by appropriate documentation of an FMD treatment should be refused entry.

These restrictions exclude cooked canned shelf-stable pork meat, which can continue to enter the United States. However, cooked canned shelf-stable ruminant meat continues to be prohibited due to BSE.

CBP Agriculture Specialists are strongly advised to consult with the local USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Veterinary Medical Officer (AQI VMO) listed in Appendix H of the APM or with PPQ Veterinary Regulatory Support Staff in Riverdale, Maryland at (301) 734-7633 to determine entry requirements for ruminant or swine products from Japan, or contact Mr. John Giannini, Branch Chief, Agriculture Safeguarding, at 202-325-4096, or via email at John.Giannini@dhs.gov.