



Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Veterinary
Services

4700 River Road
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Stakeholder/Import Alert: Change to VS policy for the Importation of Lactose and Lactose Derivatives

Issuance Date: September 1, 2016

Effective Date: September 30, 2016

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) has assessed the risk of lactose (milk sugar) and the following lactose derivatives, galactose and lactulose, and determined that they are not viable vectors for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), and the risk of entry of FMD via products containing lactose or galactose or lactulose is negligible. Therefore, commodities that contain lactose or galactose or lactulose as the ONLY animal origin ingredient may enter the United States without USDA, APHIS, VS restrictions

A USDA APHIS VS import permit (VS Form 16-6), will not be required for commodities for human and/or animal consumption or use if lactose or galactose or lactulose are the ONLY animal origin ingredient.

These commodities may be imported under the newly created USDA Guideline for Importation #1107. This list is not all inclusive:

- Pharmaceuticals
- Nutraceuticals
- Dietary/nutritional supplements
- Culture media
- Medical devices
- Placebos
- Investigational Pharmaceuticals

In order to facilitate correct identification of the shipment and to ensure timely delivery, USDA, APHIS, VS recommends that the following documentation or information accompanies each shipment, and be presented for review by the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agriculture Specialists/Officers at the U.S. port of arrival.

- A document on company letterhead prepared by the producer/manufacturer, shipper, or seller identifying lactose or galactose or lactulose as the only animal origin ingredient; OR
- An official government certificate identifying lactose or galactose or lactulose as the only animal derived ingredient

If you have further questions about animal products and their eligibility for importation into the United States or their certification requirements, please contact National Import Export Services at (301) 851-3300, option 1 or you can email us at: AskNIES.Products@aphis.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

National Import Export Services (NIES)
Animal Products Import