

## **Facility Registration Requirement of Argentina**

- **Hides and Skins**
- **Poultry Feathers**
- **Poultry Cartilage for Further Processing**
- **Egg Products for Animal Feeding**
- **Bovine Hide-Derived Gelatin and Collagen**

For the importation of certain animal products and prior to the issuance of any import permits, Argentina's SENASA requires that exporting facilities have applied for and been approved as a registered facility. This is a one-time registration requirement for each new facility and for the commodity type.

The manufacturer must submit a process document (monograph) that attests to the processing parameters for the commodity as well as making pertinent sanitary statements. SENASA requires that this process document be countersigned by a competent certifying authority.

When the circumstances below are met, the VS veterinary medical officer may be able to facilitate this requirement.

- The VMO has knowledge of the processing referred to in the process document, through a previous inspection within the previous 12 months. The VS field office also should have available on file a manufacturer's affidavit attesting to the requirements in the approved certificate (available on the Argentina IREG page).
- The process document attests to the health of the animals from which the product is derived, traceability of product to raw material, and to pertinent processing.
- The process document has been signed by the management or supervisory official of the processing plant who is directly responsible for carrying out the process referred to below.

The monograph should contain only pertinent information and statements that derive from or directly support the attestations in the approved certificate, and can include harvesting method, cleaning, usual packaging and labeling of unit and pallet, process used, storage conditions, and product expiration, as described below.

In the event that the field office veterinary official has determined that the process document meets this guidance, the signing official is authorized to countersign the document. A signature and date block should be prepared under a statement "I have read this manufacturer's statement and have no reason to doubt its validity."

Some acceptable example descriptions, if applicable, that may be pertinent for particular commodity types follow:

### Some example statements for hides and skins

- Skins are trimmed in the fresh state and then wet salted in a process including the following steps:
- They are soaked in a salt solution (saturated sodium chloride).
- A second application of salt is made during stockpiling.
- Salt-treated hides are loaded on to pallets prior to export.

#### Some examples for poultry cartilage for further processing

- The \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., poultry product/cartilage tissue) has been removed and packed in facility \_\_\_\_\_ (name, P#) under FSIS approval.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., poultry product/cartilage tissue) is taken from healthy animals which have been subjected to ante- and postmortem inspection and have been passed by USDA.

The monograph may also provide sufficiently precise information concerning processing, such as the following:

- Harvesting method. (Example: Chicken cartilage is removed by [hand][machine] on the deboning line.)
- Cleaning (i.e., by hand or machine) as applicable
- Usual packaging and labeling of unit and pallet
- Freezing process used
- Storage conditions (i.e., temperature) until shipment
- Product expiration (Example: Product expiration is 24 months from the production date.)

#### For products such as egg products intended for animal feeding or bovine hide-derived gelatin and collagen

- Evidence that the slaughter and product processing plants are approved by the official competent authorities of the United States, and the processing plants are recognized as authorized to export to Argentina by SENASA.
- Controls in place to assure that the animals giving rise to the product were slaughtered under USDA FSIS regulations pertaining to residues.
- Controls used to verify that these animals were subjected to ante- and post-mortem examinations.
- Animal and raw material traceability controls: How animal carcasses and raw material giving rise to the product are controlled.
- Sanitation controls in place for the equipment used to produce the product. Controls for product processing and handling. Evidence that product processing and handling are recognized by the government of Argentina.
- Evidence that the products were not intentionally subjected to the effects of ionizing radiation.
- Particulars of how product label establishes traceability.
- Description of how a product lot can be traced to the raw material used to produce the product.
- Evidence that product handling complies with pertinent and applicable hygiene and sanitation requirements and assurances that the product is not contaminated.
- A description of the steps used in the processing of the product.
- Evidence that the containers used to pack the product are approved and that the containers used are allowed by the government of Argentina.
- Evidence that the processing treatments used inactivate important pathogens.
- Evidence that the product is destined for human consumption and is free for sale in commerce.
- Evidence that the product is intended for animal feeding and regulated at the State level.