Bovine Serum and Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) for Laboratory/Technical Use For Export to Canada

This protocol should be used for all shipments of bovine serum and bovine serum albumin (BSA) for laboratory/technical use intended for Canada on or after June 17, 2019. *Shipments endorsed on or before June 16, 2019 are not permissible for entry into Canada under this protocol.*

In general, attestations should be made via notarized affidavit from the manufacturer and should appear on the VS Form 16-4 animal products export certificate under "Additional Declarations" beneath the Canada-specific affidavit line.[1]

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, after due inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, do hereby certify:

1. The slaughtered bovine animals from which the blood and/or blood product was derived:
    a. Passed ante-mortem inspection; and
    b. Were not subjected to a pithing process or to a stunning process with a device injecting compressed air or gas into the cranial cavity.
2. The bovine blood and/or bovine blood product was collected from bovine animals: [*only include the pertinent method or methods described below*]
    a. That were killed using a non-penetrative method, in accordance with humane slaughter practices; or
    b. That were exclusively under 30 months of age at the time of slaughter; or
    c. Using a closed collection system in a manner that prevents contamination of the blood with neural tissue leakage from the stun hole(s) of animals 30 months of age or older; or
    d. Using a system whereby each head is trimmed, washed, or scraped to remove grossly visible brain material and the stun hole is plugged with edible grease to prevent neural leakage.
3. The system for plugging the stun hole with edible grease has been approved by APHIS and recognized by CFIA and includes appropriate facility controls, monitoring, verification, and corrective measures, as well as daily regulatory oversight to ensure compliance. [*Include this statement if blood is collected using option 2d described above. If option 2d is not used, do not include this statement.*]
4. Appropriate precautions were taken during collection, processing, packaging, and shipping of the blood and/or blood product to prevent contamination or commingling with blood of a lesser zoosanitary status or with any ineligible animal origin materials, including specified risk materials (SRMs) as defined by Canada: the skull, brain, trigeminal ganglia, eyes, spinal cord, vertebral column (excluding vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, and the wings of the sacrum), the dorsal root ganglia, and the palatine tonsils from all bovine animals aged 30 months of age or older; and the distal ileum from bovine animals of all ages.
5. The blood and/or blood product was collected at [*enter name and slaughter establishment number or numbers*] and processed at [*enter name and address of processing plant*].

[1] If option 2(d) is utilized for blood collection (i.e. the system for plugging the stun hole with edible grease), the federal slaughter plant must be inspected and approved by APHIS. Reference Important Notes on page 2 for additional details regarding facility inspection and approval.

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Important Notes (not to be included in certificate language)

Statement 2.b. – Use of the method in 2.b. (i.e. collection of blood from animals exclusively under 30 months of age at the time of slaughter) requires verification that the blood was collected exclusively from veal or bob veal calves or that the facility has an AMS Export Verification (EV) program for Canada in place to ensure that only blood from animals less than 30 months of age is collected.

Statement 2.d. – Federal slaughter plants using the blood collection method in 2.d. (i.e. the system for plugging the stun hole with edible grease) must be inspected and approved by APHIS. Approval requires a facility HACCP plan outlining the process for monitoring verification and corrective actions; and an AMS EV program for Canada in place to provide daily regulatory oversight and periodic records review.