

## **Rendered Poultry Meals and Feather Meals Export to China**

Facilities wanting to export rendered poultry and/or feather meals to China must be approved by APHIS under the requirements of the non-ruminant fats and feeds protocol (see International Animal Product Regulations (IREG) entry for China entitled “Pet Food, Feed Ingredients and Animal Fats – October 2010.” Following APHIS approval, facilities are still ineligible to export these commodities until they have completed facility registration with China’s AQSIQ. China has implemented new requirements for facility registration which are complex and cumbersome. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working with the USDA’s Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) on the issue of facility registration.

Although poultry and feather meal rendering facilities are approved under the Non-Ruminant Fats and Feeds Protocol, these commodities can no longer be exported to China using the certificate which was bilaterally negotiated with China as part of that agreement. Following the detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the United States in December 2014, China banned the importation of all U.S. origin poultry products, including highly heat processed rendered poultry and feather meals. The current certificate was negotiated to restore trade in these commodities.

The new agreement went into effect April 1, 2015. All poultry and feather meals to China must be certified using the negotiated certificate found under the link entitled “Poultry and Feather Meals – December 2015.” Instructions with regard to the certificate are as follows:

1. Certification Statement #1: The exporting facility must have an APHIS reference number and a current, valid inspection by APHIS. The exporting facility must also have a current Chinese facility registration number (e.g., NR-USA-000) before APHIS/VS can endorse export certificates for poultry and feather meals to China.
2. Although the facility must be approved by APHIS and registered with China, the exporter must also provide a notarized affidavit to the endorsing VS Office with the required certification statements.
3. Certification Statement #2: If the United States is experiencing any occurrence of HPAI in the United States, the exporter may be asked to provide documentation to support this statement (i.e., that the facility is located more than 50 km from the center of any active HPAI control zone and that no raw materials are sourced from an active HPAI control zone for manufacture in the facility).
4. Certification Statement #3: The facility must be in good standing with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) so that products may be sold interstate, as well as internationally.
5. Certification Statement #4: Indicate which processing method is used.
6. Certification Statement #6: The poultry and feather meals for export to China must have been PCR tested for evidence of ruminant DNA in one of the three labs approved for PCR testing for China (see information on approved labs under “Pet Food, Feed Ingredients and Animal Fats – October 2010.”). The exporter must provide a copy of the DNA test results to the endorsing VS Office.

7. Certification Statement #7: If product is shipped in bulk containers, container liners should be used.
8. Certification Statement #8 and #9: Exporter acknowledges that every precaution is taken to avoid contamination of the product post-processing with any infectious material – or ruminant proteins that could result in a positive PCR test for ruminant DNA. Although products are tested prior to export, China does random testing of imported product. If a product tests positive for evidence of ruminant DNA, the exporting facility will not be allowed to continue exporting to China.