

Pet Foods for Dogs and Cats for Export to the Dominican Republic

This document provides the requirements and certification statements for the exportation of canned, dry, or semi-moist pet foods containing animal origin ingredients to the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Republic requires that an import permit be issued prior to presentation of the product.

Product description (product box on VS Form 16-4) should include the species of origin for all animal origin ingredients, as well as the nature of the product.

The bilingual certification statements below should be provided in the Additional Declarations section of the Export Certificate for Animal Products (VS Form 16-4) and continuation page VS form 16-4A as needed. A notarized affidavit from the manufacturer is required to support these statements on the export certificate issued by APHIS Veterinary Services. The exporter should be encouraged to verify that the requirements match the expectations of import officials at the port of entry. All required certification statements are provided in both English and Spanish.

Certification statements follow.

This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [company name] verifying the accuracy of the statements below. / *Esta oficina tiene en sus archivos una declaración juramentada de [nombre de la compañía] certificando la veracidad de las afirmaciones enunciadas a continuación.*

1. The products may be freely sold in the United States as pet food. The product has been manufactured in plants authorized by the official competent authority of the United States. / *El producto se comercializa libremente en los Estados Unidos como alimento para mascotas. El producto ha sido elaborado en plantas autorizadas por la autoridad oficial correspondiente de los Estados Unidos.*
2. Dry, semi-moist, and dehydrated pet food products were subjected during processing to a heating temperature designed to ensure the destruction of pathogenic agents harmful to animals. / *Los alimentos para mascotas secos, semi-húmedos y deshidratados fueron sometidos durante el procesamiento a una temperatura de calor diseñado para asegurar la destrucción de agentes patógenos nocivos para los animales.*
3. All animal origin ingredients in dry, semi moist, and dehydrated pet food products have been heated to a minimum internal temperature of 70° C. canned pet food products have been treated in hermetically sealed containers with an F₀ of 3.0 or more. / *Todos los ingredientes de los alimentos secos, semi-húmedos, y deshidratados para mascotas han sido calentados a una temperatura interna mínima de 70° C. Los alimentos enlatados para mascotas han sido tratados en empaques herméticamente sellados con un F₀ de 3.0, o mayor.*
4. The products have been hygienically handled and packed in clean containers made of impermeable, hermetic, and strong materials that are sufficient to protect the product from environmental contamination and safeguard commercial sterility obtained during thermal processing. / *Los alimentos han sido higiénicamente manipulados y envasados en recipientes limpios de materiales impermeables, herméticos, y fuertes que son suficientes para proteger el*

producto contra la contaminación del medio ambiente y salvaguardar la esterilidad comercial obtenida durante el procesamiento térmico.

5. Precautions have been taken to avoid contamination of the product with pathogenic agents after heat treatment. / *Precauciones han sido tomadas para evitar contaminación del producto con agentes patógenos después del tratamiento con calor.*
6. Adequate precautions have been taken during processing and storage of the certified products to prevent any commingling or cross-contamination with prohibited ruminant-origin materials. / *Se han tomado las debidas precauciones durante el procesamiento y almacenamiento de los productos certificados para evitar la mezcla durante el almacenamiento o contaminación cruzada con ingredientes prohibidos de origen rumiante.*
7. The product has been manufactured in accordance with a U.S. system of laws and regulations designed to validate microbial, physiochemical, and compositional quality. / *El producto ha sido fabricado de acuerdo con un sistema de los EE.UU. de leyes y regulaciones diseñadas para validar microbiológica, fisicoquímica y calidad compositiva.*