

Fishmeal

NOTE: We believe that Japan tests 100% of imported lots of fishmeal by PCR for the presence of bovine DNA. Exporters should consider testing prior to export using PCR, and retaining samples of each lot. If Japan's test results indicate the presence of bovine DNA, they will prohibit import of fishmeal from the relevant production facility.

Fishmeal must be produced in processing plants dedicated only to fishmeal production where no material of animal origin other than fish protein is being used.

Fishmeal exported to Japan for animal consumption may be certified by either USDA/APHIS/VS or NOAA.

For shipments certified by APHIS, a VS Form 16-4 with the following statements added to the "Additional Declaration" area is required:

1. The fish meal was produced in processing plants dedicated only to fish meal production where no material of animal origin other than fish and shellfish protein is being used.
2. The fish meal was transported in a manner to avoid commingling with other animal proteins.

The above two statements must not be made on the basis of an affidavit, and must not be placed below a "This office has on file a notarized affidavit from (company name) verifying the statements below" statement on the 16-4.

Before the VS Form 16-4 for export of fishmeal to Japan may be endorsed by APHIS, the above statements must be confirmed by APHIS or NOAA inspection.

APHIS must verify by inspection at least annually (or through review of a document issued by NOAA within the last 365 days verifying the below) that:

1. The facility does not receive, store, or process any animal origin material other than fish or shellfish; and
2. All product exported to Japan is either packaged individually in new packaging material or (if shipped in bulk shipping containers) in shipping containers that are lined with new plastic liners.

No facility approval number should be included on the export certificate. Hourly user fees should be charged for APHIS inspections.

Additional information for the export certificate:

The VS Form 16-4 should also verify the name and address of the manufacturing site.

The “IDENTIFICATION” block of the VS Form 16-4 should also contain information on the type of packaging, number of packages, and net weight.

The port of loading must also be included on the VS Form 16-4.