

Dog and Cat Foods Exported from U.S.A. to the Russian Federation

The Russian Federation has indicated that they will discontinue issuance of import permits for these materials on March 1, 2010.

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is coordinating U.S. Government efforts to address this issue.

We believe that no product will be permitted entry into the Russian Federation after March 1, 2010.

Dog and Cat Foods Exported from U.S.A. to the Russian Federation

- I. Materials Covered: This certificate is for animal-origin materials intended for feeding to dogs and cats.
- II. Special preparation and endorsement of the certificate:

The below certificate must be prepared and endorsed in a very special way. Variation from the below criteria will likely result in rejection by Russian authorities of the shipment. APHIS Area Offices should not knowingly endorse certificates that vary from these criteria. **Exporters are responsible for ensuring prior to shipment that they have a certificate meeting these criteria** and that is acceptable to Russian authorities.

- A. Prior to submission of the certificate for endorsement, the exporter should ensure the exporting facility has been inspected and approved by APHIS within the last 365 days for production of the exported dog/cat foods to the Russian Federation. To schedule such an inspection, facility management should contact their local Veterinary Services Area Office. Contact information for these offices is available at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/area_offices/ Prior to endorsement of the certificate, the APHIS Area Office will confirm that the exporter has the required approval listed on the Veterinary Services Process Streamlining (VSPS) system.
- B. Certificate preparation by the exporter:
 1. The following section of the certificate should remain blank (it will be completed by the APHIS office prior to endorsement):

ORIGINAL (Y/N) / ОРИГИНАЛ (Д/Н) COPY (Y/N) / КОПИЯ (Д/Н) Total number of copies issued / Количество выданных копий
 2. The exporter should also leave the following sections blank:
 - 1.6 (Will be completed by APHIS office at endorsement.)
 - 1.7 – 1.8 (Already completed.)

- The signature block of the certificate:

Signature of USDA official veterinarian: _____ (Date)
 Подпись официального государственного ветеринарного врача

Name and position (printed) of USDA official veterinarian: _____
 Valid only if the USDA seal appears over the signature. / Имеет силу только при наличии печати на подписи.
 Имя (печатными буквами) официального государственного ветеринарного врача

Official USDA stamp
 Официальная печать МСХ США

3. The exporter should complete the other sections (including sections 4.3 and 4.5) prior to printing of the document.
4. Certificate printing: The below certificate must be printed duplexed onto one sheet of normal white 8 ½ by 11 inch paper. **This means page one is on one side of the paper, and page two is on the other side of the paper.** Some printers are equipped to print this way. Exporters without such capability may instead use a copy machine to create the same document. Standard printers can also be used by printing side one and then reloading the paper. Care should be taken to ensure that the “top” of each side of the paper matches (that both sides are oriented in the same way).
5. No attachments or additional pages may be included in the actual export certificate.
6. Additional documents: The following documents must be submitted to the APHIS Office with each certificate for endorsement. These documents do not become part of the certificate.
 - Import permit from the Russian Federation (and English translation)- The number and date on the import permit must correspond with information the exporter placed in section 4.5 of the certificate.
 - For each lot of material listed on the export certificate laboratory results corresponding with the following criteria. The date on the laboratory reports must correspond with the date the exporter placed in section 4.3 of the certificate.

Test	Result
Salmonella spp.	None detected
Enterobacteriaceae spp.	None detected or <10 cfu/gram
Total plate count	<= 500,000 cfu/gram
Botulin toxin	None detected

In addition, one of the following reports per lot is also required:

Test	Result
<i>Clostridium</i> spp.	None detected
<i>Clostridium botulinum</i> and <i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Negative
Anaerobic plate culture	Negative (no growth)

C. Certificate endorsement by the APHIS office:

1. Prior to endorsement the APHIS office should:

- Verify the exporting facility is listed on VSPS with approval to export to the Russian Federation the certified products with a last validated inspection date within the last 365 days.
- Consider whether there has been any outbreak in the United States of any disease listed in section 4.2.1 in the relevant species in the relevant time frame. (See section 4.2.1 of the certificate for more information.)
- Confirm the certificate is the exact document below, that it is printed duplexed on plain white paper (one sheet of paper with two sides of print), and that all appropriate sections were completed by the exporter consistent with the facility inspection.
- Complete the following section of the certificate in the following way:

ORIGINAL (Y/N)/ ОПИГИНАЛ (Д/Н) COPY (Y/N)/ КОПИЯ (Д/Н) Total number of copies issued / КОЛИЧЕСТВО ВЫДАННЫХ КОПИЙ

Place “Y” in the first box. Place “N” in the second box. Place “0” in the last box. APHIS only provides one original endorsed sealed certificate per shipment. See below for information on how to receive a replacement copy if a certificate is actually lost.

- Confirm the exporter has presented the following required documentation with the certificate. These documents may not be part of the certificate:
 - Import permit from the Russian Federation (and English translation): The number and date on the import permit must correspond with information the exporter placed in section 4.5 of the certificate.
 - For each lot of material listed on the export certificate laboratory results corresponding with the following criteria. The date on the laboratory reports must correspond with the date the exporter placed in section 4.3 of the certificate.

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In addition, one of the following reports per lot is also required:

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Anaerobic plate culture	Negative (no growth)

- D. When endorsing the prepared certificate, the endorser should:
- Place the certificate number in section 1.6.
 - Sign the certificate in the appropriate spot (back page) with colored ink (e.g. blue) that is not the same color as the certificate printing (i.e., not black). (Ink should be used that would show up on a scan or copy.)
 - Date the certificate in the appropriate spot.
 - Type or print the name and title of the endorsing office in the appropriate spot.
 - Seal the certificate twice in the following exact way- seals should be embossed (raised non-colored impression in the paper) and not inked:
 - Side one: Emboss once over the certificate number (upper right hand corner).
 - Side two: Emboss once over the section of the certificate that says: “Official USDA stamp”.

III. Providing “replacement” copy of the certificate: The exporter may wish to make additional copies of the signed certificate, but APHIS only endorses and embosses one (the original). In the event the original is truly lost, the following process can be followed to issue a copy. This should be avoided. User fees apply.

- A. The Area Office can make an exact copy of the certificate from their files (this copy must also be duplexed).
- B. The Area Office would then cross out the entries already made in the below section, and then follow the following steps:

ORIGINAL (Y/N)/ ОРИГИНАЛ (Д/Н) COPY (Y/N)/ КОПИЯ (Д/Н) Total number of copies issued / Количество выданных копий

- Type “N” over the first box.
 - Type “Y” over the second box.
 - Type “1” over the last box.
 - Initial once in colored ink next to each of the above additions.
- C. In the space available in section 1.6, type “This is an exact copy of certificate number [insert certificate number] endorsed on [insert date of original certificate].” And sign and date with the current date.
- D. Initial side 2 next to “Official USDA Stamp.”
- E. Seal both sides following the same directions as the original:
 - Side one: Emboss once over the certificate number (upper right hand corner).
 - Side two: Emboss once over the section of the certificate that says: “Official USDA stamp”.