

Pet Food Export to the Republic of South Africa

General Information

Pet Food Facility Approval:

Prior to the endorsement of the “Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States into South Africa” (available from the previous page) the manufacturing facility (and often their suppliers) must be inspected (within the previous 365 days) and approved for the relevant certificate criteria. For information on these approvals, facilities should contact their local [Veterinary Services service center](#).

Supporting documentation:

Facilities must submit to their local VS Service Center the following documents with the prepared “Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States into South Africa.” These documents may NOT be attached to the official Veterinary Health Certificate.

- A South African Veterinary Import Permit: The number of this permit must correspond to the number noted on page one of the “Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States into South Africa.” If the VS Service Center already has a copy of the relevant South African Veterinary Import Permit on file, an additional copy does not have to be submitted with each certificate. Exporters should confirm the permit allows the use of the current version of the “Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States into South Africa.”
- Lot specific laboratory test reports (for each lot referenced on the certificate) meeting the following criteria:

Salmonella: absence in 25g; n=5, c=0, m=0, M=0
Enterobacteriaceae: $M=3 \times 10^2$ in 1g, n=5, c=2, m=10

where:

n = number of samples taken.

m = threshold value for the number of bacteria; the results to be considered satisfactory if the number of bacteria in all sample does not exceed m.

M = maximum value for the number of bacteria; result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in one or more sample is M or more.

c = number of samples the bacterial count of which may be between m and M, the sample still being considered acceptable if the bacterial count of the other sample units is m or less.

Country of origin requirements:

South Africa has very strict requirements regarding the country of origin for various ingredients. All animal origin ingredients must be sourced as noted below (the information included in section I.c. of the certificate must be consistent with these limitations):

- A. Bovine (excluding dairy, hides, skins, and tallow containing a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% by weight) ingredients must be derived from animals slaughtered in the United States, or animals born, raised, and slaughtered in only the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Namibia, New Zealand, Paraguay, and/or Uruguay.
- B. Bovine: dairy, hides, skins, and/or tallow containing a maximum level of insoluble impurities of 0.15% by weight ingredients may be sourced from any country. (The country of origin for bovine dairy should not be noted on the certificate but the ingredient should clearly be identified as “Bovine (dairy)” in section I.c. of the certificate.)
- C. Poultry must originate from the United States and/or Canada.
- D. Fish origin ingredients may originate from any country. (The country of origin for fish-origin ingredients should not be noted in section I.c. of the certificate but the ingredient should clearly be identified.)
- E. Caprine and Ovine ingredients (including dairy) must originate from Australia and/or New Zealand.
- F. Porcine ingredients must originate from the United States and/or Canada.