

## Important Information Regarding the Export of Animal Products to Taiwan

- **Certificate date:** Taiwan has indicated that they will not accept certificates endorsed after consignments have shipped. Products should not ship until after the certificate has been issued.
- **Original certificates/embossed seals:** Taiwanese authorities have indicated that only **original** APHIS certificates with raised seals are acceptable. Scans, faxes, and photocopies will not be accepted. Exporters should arrange to have the actual certificate with the APHIS raised (embossed) seal accompany the shipment. **Taiwanese authorities will reject certificates if they cannot feel the entire USDA seal.** Exporters should confirm, with the assistance of the endorsing APHIS office, that their certificates have fully palpable seals prior to shipment. If a certificate must be reissued to correct an error, Taiwan will generally allow the consignment to enter without the original of the reissued certificate, as long as they have the original of the initial certificate. However, they still require the importer to eventually submit the original of the reissued certificate. In all case, the exporter must arrange to have the original of the certificate sent to their importers for presentation at the port of entry into Taiwan.
- **Consignment information:** Taiwan requires all certificates to contain the precise name, quantity, and weight of items exported. A "total" weight is not acceptable, if items are individually packaged. Taiwan is looking for descriptions such as the following: "500 pounds dry dog food (10 5-pound bags, 1 50-pound bag, and 4 100-pound bags)." The certificate must also contain enough information to link the actual consignment to the certificate. Examples of acceptable information include the container number or lot numbers.
- **Pet Food versus livestock feeds:** Taiwan generally considers "pet food" to be "dog food" and "cat food." Generally, materials to be fed to other pets, such as rodents, fish, birds, and reptiles, must meet the requirements for the "**Animal Feed Preparations**" (if the product contains animal origin ingredients), or "**Livestock Feeds**" (if the product contains no animal origin ingredients). Exporters should have their Taiwanese importers confirm with Taiwanese authorities prior to shipment under which protocols their specific product must be imported.