

Requirements to import pet food to Taiwan

Taiwan has prohibited the importation of pet food from the US- regardless of the species of origin of the materials. [Dog and cat foods containing no animal origin materials except for fish and/or dairy and/or gelatin materials are exempt from this prohibition, and not covered by this document. Pet chews containing no animal origin materials other than hides (plus or minus dairy or fish or gelatin) are also exempt from this prohibition, and not covered by this document.]

However, Taiwan has created a complex inspection procedure under which they will allow the importation from certain plants.

Pet food manufacturers must apply to the Taiwanese government for inspection and approval of their production facility.

For further information on the Taiwanese application and approval process, exporters should contact:

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Pet Food Institute (PFI)
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APHIS is not involved in this approval process- other than the completion of a **Plant Certification for Manufacturers of Pet Food to be Exported to Taiwan**. Facilities should contact their local Veterinary Services Area Office for instructions on how to obtain this form.

APHIS is NOT involved in arranging for these inspections. Industry (PFI) has volunteered to coordinate applications for inspections through the representatives of the Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) in Taiwan.

Once Taiwan has approved a facility to produce pet food for export to Taiwan, and notified APHIS of this approval, and then the following certificate may be endorsed.

Shipments of pet food from Taiwanese approved facilities must be accompanied by a VS Form 16-4 with only the following information:

"This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [insert name of company here] verifying the accuracy of the statements below.

The certified pet food was produced at the following manufacturer approved by BAPHIQ: [Insert manufacturing plant name and address.]

*The certified pet food was produced: [insert date or dates of production ***].*

*The certified pet food was derived from animals of the following species:
[Insert species of origin of pet food.]*

*Ruminant origin ingredients (except dairy and/or gelatin) used in the pet food come from only the following BSE free countries: **[delete this statement if pet food does not contain ruminant origin ingredients imported from BSE free countries **]. Otherwise, list those countries here.]***

The animal protein ingredients (except dairy and/or gelatin) were not derived from cattle, sheep, goat, or other animals susceptible to bovine spongiform encephalopathy from areas officially declared by the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, as bovine spongiform encephalopathy infected areas. The exported product was not produced from any ruminant animals or ruminant products (prohibited by Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 94 and 95) imported from Canada after May 20, 2003.

There has been no commingling of any ingredients with any ruminant origin items (except dairy and/or gelatin) from any BSE country at any time."

Materials from states that Taiwan considers to be affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza or exotic Newcastle disease must also contain the following statement: "Pet food was heated to a minimum internal (core) temperature of at least 70 degrees Celsius for 30 minutes or more." [Alternative treatments may be acceptable by special approval by BAPHIQ- contact your APHIS Area Office for more information.]

For information on which States (if any) Taiwan considers affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza or exotic Newcastle disease, please go back to the general Taiwan page and select "Important information regarding trade bans on various products."

Also note:

- The VS Form 16-4 must include: the name (not product code), 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)."** A generic product name, e.g. "pet food," should be used **instead of listing the name of each item.**
- Information regarding product codes is not required and should not be included on the certificate endorsed by APHIS. If exporters wish to provide this information to their importers, they should do it via other documentation (not endorsed by APHIS or part of the certificate endorsed by APHIS). It is strongly recommended that this documentation be provided to the importer via a method other than accompanying the shipment. Numerous shipments of pet food to Taiwan have

been placed on hold in Taiwan because documentation provided indicated that product codes were different than some information on product packaging.

- The certificate must still be linked to the materials actually shipped via a method such as container number or lot numbers.

**All countries listed must be only countries that have been recognized as free from BSE by the Council of Agriculture of Taiwan. These countries and ingredients must have been approved by Taiwan during the Taiwanese inspection of the manufacturing plant.

***** Manufacture date must be after the date that Taiwan has officially approved the production facility. A range of dates should be used when multiple dates are applicable, e.g. "from May 1, 2006 to November 30, 2006."**