

Serum and Serum Products for Technical Purposes General Information

These requirements apply only to blood products intended for technical use, and do not apply to blood products intended for animal consumption (feed use).

Taiwanese importers must obtain an import permit from the Taiwanese Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) prior to importing serum for technical purposes.* APHIS/VS does not require U.S. exporters to present a copy of the Taiwanese import permit prior to endorsing certificates for shipments unless the exporter has received an exemption from the requirements as noted herein.

*The U.S. exporter is responsible for ensuring that the Taiwanese importer has a current, valid import permit that covers the type, quantity, and intended end-use (in vitro/in-vivo; commercial/research) of the products being exported.

Plant Certificates-For Bovine Serum

This requirement pertains to the export of BOVINE serum only; it is not a requirement for the export of NON-bovine serum. In addition to official certification for each shipment of bovine serum, BAPHIQ requires the Taiwanese importer to present a “Plant Certificate” prior to the issuance of an import permit. This certificate is the “Plant Certification for Manufacturers/Processors of Technical Serum to be Exported to Taiwan.”

The “Plant Certificate” must contain detailed information about the species and country of origin of the animal origin materials handled by the serum processing facility. If the facility handles blood other than bovine blood, only livestock (including poultry) species need to be included (e.g., human blood does not need to be listed).

Endorsement of the “Plant Certificate” by APHIS/VS does not guarantee that BAPHIQ will issue an import permit. BAPHIQ approval depends on the species/country of origin of materials and the methods employed to prevent commingling or cross-contamination. APHIS/VS will not be advised of or maintain a list of “approved facilities.” Approval is specific to the importer and is based on the products that will be imported, as well as the “Plant Certificate.” BAPHIQ notifies Taiwanese importers of approval to import a specific commodity from a given plant. This information will be addressed in the import permit issued to the Taiwanese importer.

Only one “Plant Certificate” per producer is required. It is our understanding that the certificate does not have to be renewed. However, if there are changes in the type of materials (species and/or country of origin) handled in a facility, then the producer/manufacturer needs to request an updated “Plant Certificate” prior to BAPHIQ issuing an import permit to allow the importation of the new materials.

Information included in the “Plant Certificate” below the line: “This file has on file a notarized affidavit from _____ (*name of processing plant*) verifying the accuracy of the statements below” must be an exact quote of the information included in the body of the

notarized affidavit from the company official. [This does not include the closing statement which should be on the affidavit: “I certify that the statements listed above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.”] No additional information may be included.

Please see “Serum plant certification” for the fillable “Plant Certification for Manufacturers/Processors of Technical Serum to be Exported to Taiwan.”

Export Certificates

A VS Form 16-4, Export Certificate for Animal Products, is required for each shipment of technical serum to Taiwan. Please see entries for the different types of serum (e.g., non-bovine serum; bovine serum; fetal bovine serum) for specific entry and certification requirements.