## Information for Export: Production/Handling and Shipment of Rendered Meals to Mexico

For rendering and blending facilities (as defined by Mexico) producing or handling (receiving, storing, or processing) rendered meals for eventual shipment to Mexico (or for inclusion in pet food for shipment to Mexico), Mexico requires the completion of a Facility Questionnaire. This Questionnaire may be obtained from your <u>local VS Service Center</u>. Note that this Questionnaire was created for use in multiple countries and therefore has options that may not pertain to the U.S.

In addition to this Questionnaire, blending facilities must now also provide verification to their local VS Service Center that all meals handled are sourced from rendering facilities currently approved for export of rendered meals to Mexico by SAGARPA. For more information regarding how to provide this verification, please contact your local VS Service Center.

Under Mexico's current regulations pertaining to meals for use as feedstuffs and intended for export or as ingredients in pet foods for export to Mexico, any rendering facility that either handles or stores ruminant materials on the same premises cannot be approved. VS Service Centers should not recommend such facilities for approval.

VS Service Centers may receive submissions from exporting facilities, including the Questionnaire and verification of approved rendering facilities, seeking approval to export rendered meals to Mexico. Upon APHIS review and issuance of recommendation for approval, APHIS will then advise Mexico of this recommendation for approval.

Generally, Mexico can approve and add the facility to their database (currently available on <a href="https://sistemasssl.senasica.gob.mx/PlantaAcreditada/">https://sistemasssl.senasica.gob.mx/PlantaAcreditada/</a>) within a week of APHIS notification; however, it may take up to three more weeks for it to be added to the Mexican list of approved facilities.

Upon approval by SAGARPA, VS Service Centers may endorse export certificates for rendered meals from these approved facilities. Requirements for export certification of rendered meals are available on a separate document on the IREGs, but they are subject to change without notice.