Porcine Origin Verification Program (POVP) for Porcine Products other than Blood

These requirements apply only to pure porcine products other than blood (refer to "Blood Products" on the main Taiwan IREGs page for additional information on export of non-rendered porcine blood produced under POVP). Products containing other animal-origin materials may not be certified under this protocol.

Taiwan prohibits the importation of porcine products other than blood from the United States unless the products are produced at facilities registered with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and approved by USDA-APHIS as compliant with the Porcine Origin Verification Program (POVP) for products other than blood.

FACILITY APPROVALS

APHIS and the Taiwanese government Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency (APHIA) have reached a bilateral agreement which permits APHIS to inspect and approve new porcine product manufacturing and packaging facilities on behalf of Taiwan. Facilities exclusively handling porcine products (other than blood) produced under POVP in their final packaging (such as warehouses) and facilities supplying raw materials do not need to be inspected or approved by APHIS prior to export. **All other facilities handling product prior to final packaging, including packaging facilities, must be inspected under this package and approved by APHIS prior to export.** Facilities must be re-inspected by APHIS every 3 years to maintain their approval. If a facility is interested in obtaining or renewing their approval to export poultry products to Taiwan under POVP, they should contact their pertinent Veterinary Services (VS) Service Center to arrange for an inspection.

NOTE: There is a separate protocol and inspection process for facilities handling or producing non-rendered spray-dried porcine blood. While those facilities are also approved under a Porcine Origin Verification Program, it is not the same program. Please refer to Porcine blood products for animal consumption (other than rendered products) for more information.

Once the request for inspection has been made by the facility, the facility will receive a pre-inspection package which should be completed and returned to the Service Center prior to the physical inspection.

Upon satisfactory review, the Service Center and facility will arrange and complete the inspection. Following inspection, the veterinary inspector will return the completed package to the Service Center, who in turn provides it to VS headquarters. VS headquarters will review the information, and if appropriate, enter the information into the APHIS internal database and provide the name and address of the approved facility to Taiwan, along with the date of approval. Taiwan will publish the facility name and address on their website within 2-3 business days and notify VS headquarters of final facility approval. VS headquarters will then notify the Service Center to inform the facility of final approval by both APHIS and Taiwan. It is the responsibility of the facility to confirm their information is listed accurately on the Taiwanese website and this may be verified through the Taiwanese importer. Only product produced on or

after the date of Taiwanese approval is eligible for export to Taiwan. A facility may not begin to export porcine products to Taiwan until they have received notification from their VS Service Center of their final APHIS and Taiwan approval.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1) Facilities must be registered and under the supervision of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and maintain the biennial registration requirements with FDA. Facilities should be prepared to show documentation of current registration with the FDA to the APHIS Veterinary Services inspector upon request.

2) Facilities may be dedicated to handling porcine materials (including blood meal) and products eligible for Taiwan, or they may utilize a dedicated line (including separate equipment for the manufacture, processing, handling and storage or materials and products) or an FDA-approved flushing / cleanout method between the production and handling of eligible and ineligible materials.

3) Product must undergo lot-specific testing for the presence of ruminant contamination by PCR at a USDA-recognized laboratory prior to export to Taiwan, with the samples being collected from the *finished* product. PCR testing must take place at the last facility handling material prior to packaging (e.g. loading into shipping containers or into final packaging).

4) All materials exported should contain the following information on the package label:
   a) Name of feed/product;
   b) Manufacture date or range of dates (month/year);
   c) Name and address of manufacturer*;
   d) Country of origin (United States);
   e) Name of species that will consume the product; and
   f) The statements:
   "*This product/feed must not be given to cattle, sheep, goats or deer. (Caution: giving this product/feed to cattle, sheep, goats or deer is subject to penalty.) This product/feed must be stored in such a way that it will not be mixed with feed (including raw materials used to manufacture the feed) for cattle, sheep, goats or deer.*"

   *NOTE: The name and address of the manufacturer(s) on the product label must match the name and address of the manufacturer(s) listed on the export health certificate or product will be rejected upon arrival in Taiwan.

5) All product exported to Taiwan must be packed in "never before used" packaging materials, or if shipped in bulk, new container liners must be used. Packages and containers must be sealed or closed to prevent contamination.

CERTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT

APHIS VS will only endorse export certificates for shipments of porcine products other than blood to Taiwan from facilities currently approved by APHIS under the POVP for products other than blood.

The endorsing VS Service Center will review the APHIS internal database to ensure the manufacturing and/or packaging facility meets all POVP requirements and is approved to export to Taiwan. The VS Service Center may request documentation of current registration with the FDA prior to endorsement. Lot-specific PCR test results must be presented with the request for certificate endorsement.

Product must be certified using the VS Form 16-4 with the following required statements. The bilaterally negotiated certification statements included in this protocol are not to be amended or revised.

1. The certified product was processed under the requirements of the Porcine Origin Verification Program (POVP) for Porcine Products Other than Blood at the following facility, which is under the supervision of the U.S. government: [*insert name and address of the U.S. manufacturing facility*].

2. The above facility has been approved by APHIS as meeting all criteria of the POVP for Porcine Products Other than Blood.

3. The certified product was manufactured exclusively from porcine materials and does not contain protein derived from ruminant ingredients. The certified product has been tested and shown to be free of ruminant contamination.
Date of test: [*insert date of test*]
Result: [*insert result - must indicate the absence of ruminant protein*]

4. The certified product has been handled in a manner to prevent contamination with pathogenic microorganisms or any non-porcine animal origin materials.

5. The products originate from animals that were born, raised and slaughtered, or legally imported into the United States.

6. The products are not derived from cattle, sheep, goats or other animals susceptible to BSE from areas officially declared by the Ministry of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, as BSE infected areas.

7. The products originate from animals that may originate from the U.S., Canada and/or Mexico.

In the "PRODUCT" box, include the following:
Porcine product (provide product name - e.g. porcine protein hydrolysate; porcine meal); Product quantity - weight plus # of packages (if individual packages); Include manufacture date(s)