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Report Highlights:

Austria as a member of the European Union (EU), applies EU regulations to the imports of agricultural products. U.S. export certification requirements for most products destined for the EU are harmonized. The few products which are not harmonized are subject to national regulations. Importers or exporters may need to consult with Austrian authorities to address import requirements for non-harmonized products on a case-by-case basis.

Last updated November 2023.

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DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in *Vienna, Austria* for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines specific Austrian export certificates. The export certification requirements for most products destined for the European Union (EU) market have been harmonized. Austria, as a member of the EU, conforms to all EU regulations and directives. It is therefore recommended that this report is read in conjunction with the most recent Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) export certificate report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium which you can find in the public [FAS GAIN database](#). Competent authorities for specific import requirements and non-harmonized products are the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Regions and Water Management.

SECTION I. LIST OF ALL THE EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT

Austria has fully implemented EU regulations for the import of food, animal, and plant products. For additional information on U.S. export certificates for the EU market please search for the latest EU FAIRS Certificate Report in the [FAS GAIN database](#) or check out the [USEU website](#).

EU certification rules for imports are complicated and in practice not always harmonized across EU Member States. The small number of products that are not yet harmonized are subject to Austrian national regulations. The competent Austrian authority must be consulted on a case-by-case basis to address requirements for non-harmonized products.

Export certificates must be in the official language of Austria, which is German, as well as of the Member State where the border inspection occurs. Certified translations of the certificates into German may be used.

EU food legislation is translated into all official EU languages in use (including German) and is published in the Official Journal. The Eur-lex website <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm> provides free access to European Union laws.

There are no additional Austrian-specific certificates (other than EU certificates) for food products deriving from plants and animals.

The import of special products like blood, blood products, and material containing epizootic pathogens must be approved by the Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care, and Consumer Protection. Usually the importer (or possibly an exporter) applies to the Ministry with all relevant details. There is no set form for this kind of application. Approval is granted on a case-by-case basis.

Austrian responsible authority for food and animal products and related health certificates:

Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care, and Consumer Protection

In German: Bundesministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz

Radetzkystrasse 2

A – 1031 Vienna

Austria

Tel. +43 (1) 711 00-0

<https://www.sozialministerium.at/en.html>

Austrian responsible authority for plant products and related health certificates:

Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Regions and Water Management

In German: Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Regionen und Wassermanagement

Stubenring 12

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<https://info.bml.gv.at/en/>

SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

Composite Products

[Regulation \(EU\) 2019/625](#) defines composite products as foodstuffs intended for human consumption that contain processed products of animal origin and ingredients of plant origin. Composite products include a wide variety of products, including cheesecakes, high protein food supplements, pizza, and lasagnas. U.S. exports of “composite products” continue to be restricted due to burdensome certification requirements. While the U.S. is eligible to ship hormone-free meat, dairy products, egg products, and fishery products separately, it is sometimes not possible to ship the composite products that combine these eligible ingredients.

Exporters should be aware that in parallel with the aforementioned changes to the composite product certificate that was triggered by an update of the EU’s Animal Health Law, the EU also made changes to the categories of composite products that require U.S. Government-issued health certificates. The new system, which entered into force on January 15, 2022, is no longer based on the percentage of ingredients of animal product in the final product. It establishes three categories of composite products: (1) non-shelf stable composite products, (2) shelf stable composite products that contain meat products and (3) shelf stable composite products that do not contain meat products. All processed products of animal origin must be sourced from EU-approved establishments. The EU continues to require composite product certificates for all non-shelf stable products and for shelf stable composite products with a meat ingredient.

For shelf stable products not containing meat, no certificates signed by the U.S. Government are required. For these products, the representative of the importer must declare that the goods meet the relevant EU requirements, using the “Private Attestation” model form.

For additional information on U.S. export certificates for the EU market please search for the latest EU FAIRS Certificate Report in the [FAS GAIN database](#) or check out the [USEU Trade with the EU website](#).

SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

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SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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SECTION V. OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE MARKET ENTRY

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Attachments:

No Attachments