

Required Report: Required - Public Distribution

Date: December 31,2020

Report Number: KE2020-0011

Report Name: Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards
Export Certificate Report

Country: Kenya

Post: Nairobi

Report Category: FAIRS Export Certificate Report

Prepared By: Kennedy Gitonga

Approved By: Ryan Scott

Report Highlights:

This report complements the FAIRS Annual Country Report for Kenya and provides information on certificates required by the Government of Kenya (GOK) to export food and agricultural products to Kenya. The Kenya TradeNet System provides a single point for importers and exporters to electronically submit and receive approvals from the relevant trade regulatory agencies.

Disclaimer: This report is prepared by the USDA/ Foreign Agricultural Service, Office of Agricultural Affairs Nairobi for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural commodities. While all possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies/regulations/directives have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information was not available. Post highly recommends that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are usually best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any products are shipped.

Table of contents:	Page
Executive Summary.....	3
Section I. List of all export certificates required by GOK.....	3
Section II. Purpose of specific export certificate(s).....	5
Section III. Specific attestations required on export certificate(s).....	5
Section IV. Government certificate’s and legal entry requirements.....	6
Section V. Other certification/accreditation requirements.....	7
Appendix I. Electronic copy or outline of each export certificate.....	7

Executive Summary

Exports of food and agricultural products to Kenya are regulated by five key agencies which are linked to a single online export/import approval system. Those agencies are the following: Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS), Kenya Dairy Board (KDB), Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), National Biosafety Authority (NBA), and the Department of Public Health (DPH).

All export approval stages are undertaken by the Electronic Import Export System ([KESWS](#)). This system can be accessed once an exporter creates an account and makes an export application. In addition to product specific certifications, a certificate of conformity (CoC) issued by an agent of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), on pre-export verification, is mandatory for all exports to Kenya.

Section I. List of all export certificates required by GOK

Products	Title of certificate	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting ministry (Regulatory agency)
Almost all food products	Certificate of Conformity (CoC) (Must be obtained through: Intertek pre-export verification of conformity (PVoC) Program for Kenya or SGS PVoC Program for Kenya)	Product conforms to Kenya's standards. The key elements undertaken in the PVoC before issuance of COC are: a) Physical inspection prior to shipment. b) Sampling, testing and analysis in accredited laboratories. c) Quality audit of production process. d) Documentary review of conformity; and	Conformity with GOK standards (quality, health, safety, and environment)	Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS)

		e) Issuance of CoC.		
All plant materials	Plant import permit (see KEPHIS) and APHIS phytosanitary certificate (APHIS PPO Form 577)	For specific product attestation requirements, visit the following website: KEPHIS Plant Import and Quarantine Regulatory System	Plant health (free from pests and diseases)	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)
Bull semen	Permit to import bull Semen	Product conforms to veterinary requirements of Kenya (example in appendix 1)	Animal health	Department of Veterinary Services (DVS)
Meat, meat products and meat by-products	No objection permit to import meat and meat products	Product conforms to testing requirements of Kenya (example in appendix 1)	Animal health and food safety	DVS
Milk and milk products	No objection permit to import milk and milk products	Product conforms to testing requirements of Kenya (example in appendix 1)	Animal health and food safety	DVS
Egg and egg products	No objection permit to import egg and egg products	Product conforms to veterinary requirements of Kenya (example in appendix 1)	Animal health and food safety	DVS
Food, feed or ingredients containing genetically modified (GM) products	Import permit for GM containing products	Product conforms to Kenya's Biosafety (Import, Export, Transit) regulations <i>Note: A GM products import ban is currently in place in Kenya</i>	Biosafety of GM containing products	National Biosafety Authority (NBA)

To obtain a certificate of conformity (CoC), an imported product must satisfy Kenyan import requirements, as evaluated by the pre-export verification of conformity (PVoC) agents appointed by GOK. Once a PVoC agent has issued a CoC, the importer may present the CoC to KEBS for clearance of the goods and apply for the Import Standardization Mark (ISM), a stick-on-label to be affixed to each retail container. Directions on PVoC can be obtained at [KEBS PVoC](#).

There are three routes for CoC certification. The PVoC agent(s) review(s) the request for certification (RFC) received from the exporter before determining the most appropriate certification route and the applicable standard to be used in the certification process. Additional information can be found at: [KEBS](#)

Route A: This route is open to all products being exported by either traders or manufacturers and is mainly for first time exporters. Products shipped under this route must be tested and physically inspected to demonstrate conformity to relevant standards.

Route B: This route is primarily used by frequent exporters of homogenous products. Products shipped under this route must be registered with an authorized PVoC agent. The product registration is valid for a period of one year. Shipments of registered products are exempted from mandatory testing, and certification may be based on physical inspection only. However, random testing of registered product is still required to ensure product conformity throughout the one-year registration period. The following products are, however, not eligible for registration under Route B, and must go through Route A:

- Sugar
- Cereals and pulses such as rice, wheat, beans, and corn
- Animal and fishery products (fresh and frozen- not further processed)
- Dairy products, and
- Fresh horticultural products.

Route C: This route is allowed only for manufacturers with a quality management system in their production process. It involves auditing of such production processes and licensing of products manufactured by authorized PVoC agent(s), in alignment with ISO Guide 28: 2004. If successful, the manufacturer will be presented with a license for the relevant products, valid for a period of one year. Licensed products are subject to random physical inspection by authorized PVoC agent(s) prior to issuance of CoC and subsequent shipping. However, the PVoC agent(s) will carry out limited testing during the license valid period.

Section II. Purpose of specific export certificate(s)

See table in Section 1 above

Section III. Specific attestations required on export certificate(s)

See table in Section I above

Section IV. Government certificate's and legal entry requirements

The table below provides legal-entry information on certificates listed in Section I

Title of the certificate	Is the certificate required at entry?	How long is the certificate valid?	Can the certificate be applied on multiple shipments?	Does Kenya accept suppliers or manufacturers export declaration as proof of compliance?
Certificate of conformity (CoC)	Yes, for all products subject to PVoC	Three months	No	No
Phytosanitary certificate	Yes	No specific time limit - covers shipment period	No	No
Plant import permit	Yes	No specific time limit - covers shipment period	No	No
Permit to import bull semen	Yes	Shipment period	No	No
No objection permit to import meat and meat products	Yes	Three months	No	No
No objection permit to import milk and milk products	Yes	Three months	No	No
No objection permit to import egg and egg products	Yes	Three months	No	No
Import permit for GM containing products	Yes	Shipment period	No	No


Section V. Other certification/accreditation requirements

In addition to the aforementioned certificates, the GOK requires the original airway bill or bill of lading, order form or pro-forma invoices (weight, products specification packaging and value), packing list, and insurance documents on U.S. exports to Kenya.

Appendix I. Electronic copy or outline of each export certificate

A. Permit to import bull semen

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
STATE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK**

Telegrams: "VETLAB", Kabete Telephone: 020 – 2067641 and 020-2700705 Fax: 020-2026212 E-mail: cvfokabete@yahoo.com , director@dvskabete.go.ke		DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES, VETERINARY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, PRIVATE BAG, 00625 KANGEMI
When replying, please quote: <i>All correspondences should be addressed to:</i> The Director of Veterinary Services <i>Parcel by rail:</i> Nairobi Station		Date of Issue: Valid Until: Application No:

Veterinary requirements

1. Certification

The consignment must be accompanied by a permit and certificate signed by a ***veterinary surgeon of the government of the exporting country*** to the effect that:

The district or area from which the semen is derived is free from any disease of cattle notifiable by law to the ministry responsible for veterinary administration.

- i. The bull(s) from which the semen was collected were healthy and free from diseases, which are transmitted via semen.
- ii. The semen was collected at an approved Artificial Insemination Center, which is under the sanitary supervision and control of a veterinary surgeon.

- iii. The Center is under overall supervision of a veterinary administration that is responsible for routine visits to check the health and welfare of the bulls and the procedures and records at the Center at least once every six months.
- iv. Adequate and approved measures have been taken against introduction of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in accordance with Terrestrial Animal Health Code of O.I.E.

2. Bull requirements

- i. The bull(s) must have been continuously residing at the A.I. Center for the period of semen collection and in that time had not been used for natural mating.
- ii. The bull(s) was(were) subjected to a virus identification test for blue tongue disease according to the terrestrial manual on blood samples collected at commencement and conclusion of, and at least, every 7 days (virus isolation test) or at least every 28 days (PCR test) during semen collection for this semen consignment with negative results.
- iii. The bull(s) must have been tested and shown no campylobacter infections on both immunofluorescent and culture examination of semen and preputial washings before entry into an E.U approved A.I. Station.
- iv. The bull(s) must have been tested serologically, with negative results to *Leptospira* serotype prevalent in cattle in the exporting country or been injected twice with an approved drug for the treatment of leptospirosis according to the manufacturers' directions within three months prior to collection of this semen batch.
- v. The bull(s) must have been tested for Tuberculosis with negative results within twelve months prior to the semen collection if the exporting Country is not free from Bovine Tuberculosis.
- vi. The bull(s) was(were) examined for IPV/IBR virus with negative results.

3. Other requirements

The bull(s) must have been progeny tested with positive results. A copy of pedigree and progeny test values must be attached to Veterinary Health Certificate.

- i. The bull(s) has(have) no genetic defects or carriers of the CVM gene.
- ii. The semen exporter will include two doses of semen for a motility check using a Stereomicroscope at x 40 magnification.

4. Semen packaging and transportation

- i. Each semen straw must have been identified with the name and identification number of the donor bull and the date of collection.
- ii. The semen must be packed hygienically and under adequate liquid nitrogen in containers which were cleaned and disinfected under a veterinary surgeon's supervision.
- iii. The Semen must be consigned by Air and through the fastest route possible to The Director of Veterinary Services, Private Bag Kabete, Code: 00625, Kangemi, Nairobi, Kenya. Details of arrival of the consignment must be communicated to the Director of Veterinary Services in good time.

- iv. On arrival the consignment will be detained by the Director of Veterinary Services until documents and the semen have been inspected by the veterinarian in charge, Artificial Insemination Division – Veterinary Laboratory. If the Director of Veterinary Services is not satisfied with the fulfillment of the requirements, the semen may be ordered re-exported or destroyed at the expense of the importer.

No semen shall be distributed or sold except under the authority of a license issued by the Director of Veterinary Services and in accordance with such conditions as may be attached thereto.

NB: Any person, who imports, distributes or sells bull semen without having first obtained a license to do so or who imports, distributes or sells bull semen in breach of any condition attached to his/her license is guilty of an offense.

The original copy of this permit must accompany the consignment to Kenya and be presented to an officer of this department at the airport.

B. No objection permit to import meat, meat products and meat by-products

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
STATE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK**

<p>Telegrams: "VETLAB", Kabete</p> <p>Telephone: 020 – 2067641 and 020-2700705</p> <p>Fax: 020-2026212</p> <p>E-mail: cvfokabete@yahoo.com, director@dvs-kabete.go.ke</p>		<p>DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES, VETERINARY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, PRIVATE BAG, 00625 KANGEMI</p>
<p>When replying, please quote</p> <p><i>All correspondences should be addressed to:</i></p> <p>The Director of Veterinary Services</p> <p><i>Parcel by rail: Nairobi Station</i></p>		<p>Date of Issue:</p> <p>Valid Until:</p> <p>Application No:</p>

Requirements for meat, meat products and meat by-products
(Issued under meat control (imported meat and meat products) regulations, 1997)


1. The slaughterhouse(s) where meat animals were slaughtered is(are) approved and designated as (an) Export Slaughterhouse(s) by the highest veterinary authorities of the country of origin, have a control/establishment number, and are under constant supervision by the same authorities.
2. The processing plants where the meat and meat products are packed, labelled and loaded, and which are outside the export slaughterhouses, are designated as export plants by the highest veterinary authorities of country of origin, have a control establishment number, and are under constant supervision by the competent authority.
3. The slaughtering, dressing, handling, packing, loading of the meat was done under the most proper hygiene conditions in accordance with the basic sanitary rules and regulations of the Recommended International Code of Hygienic practices of fresh meat CAC/RCP 11-1976, Rev.1 (1993) in Codex Alimentarius Vol. (1994).
4. The meat and meat products do not contain foreign substances or chemical residues in concentrations injurious to human health.
5. The animals from which the meat was derived were drawn from regions or farms known to be free for at least six months from all the infectious and contagious diseases particularly foot and mouth disease, anthrax, rabies, brucellosis, scrapie, swine fever, and atrophic rhinitis.
6. The animals from which the meat was derived were subjected to thorough ante mortem and postmortem inspection by an official veterinarian and found to be free from symptoms of all contagious and infectious disease/lesions, particularly those referred to in paragraph (v) and that having been unconditionally passed were found sound, wholesome and fit for human consumption.
7. The meat inspection procedures and hygiene practices are in accordance with the “code of practice for the ante mortem judgment of slaughter animals and meat” of FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission ALINORM 85/32).
8. The animals from which the meat, meat products, and meat by-products was derived originated from the country of origin.
9. The meat/meat products shall be transported directly from the country of origin to Kenya without any trans-shipment.
10. The meat/meat products shall be transported from the country of origin to the importers’ cold stores by means that conform to the rules and regulations of the Meat Control (Transport of meat regulations) of Kenya.
11. Every consignment must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate, indicating the number of the designated export slaughterhouse or processing plant the meat was processed.
12. Permits are issued valid for one consignment only and must be presented to the veterinary officer at the port of entry into Kenya.

Note that the process can only be started by an application from the importer and issue of a no-objection permit with these requirements, upon approval of the application by our relevant authorities, on a case-by-case basis. When more conditions such as risk analysis are considered, the same shall be required.

C. No objection permit to import milk and milk products



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
STATE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK**

<p>Telegrams: "VETLAB", Kabete</p> <p>Telephone: 020 – 2067641 and 020-2700705</p> <p>Fax: 020-2026212</p> <p>E-mail: cvfokabete@yahoo.com, director@dvs-kabete.go.ke</p>		<p>DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES, VETERINARY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, PRIVATE BAG, 00625 KANGEMI</p>
<p>When replying, please quote:</p> <p><i>All correspondences should be addressed to:</i></p> <p>The Director of Veterinary Services</p> <p><i>Parcel by rail:</i> Nairobi Station</p>		<p>Date of Issue:</p> <p>Valid Until:</p> <p>Application No:</p>

Requirements for milk and milk Products

1. The area within a 10 kilometer (6.2 mile) radius of the farms of origin has been free from any disease to which cattle are susceptible and which are notifiable to the *veterinary authorities of the country of origin* for the previous three months.
2. There has been no outbreak of foot and mouth disease, lumpy skin or contagious bovine pleuropneumonia within 50 kilometers (31 miles) of the farms of origin in the previous three months.
3. There has been no foot and mouth disease types SAT1, SAT3 or ASIA 1 or rinderpest or vesicular stomatitis recorded in the country of origin within the previous four years.
4. That the milk or milk products originate from animals that have passed the following tests within 30 days prior to the exports.
 - i. Single comparative intra-dermal tuberculin test for tuberculosis applied and interpreted according to the standards of WHO/OIE/FAO


- ii. Serum agglutination test for brucellosis interpreted with regard to any previous vaccination according to the standards of WHO/OIE/FAO,
 - iii. Complement fixation test for Johnes disease (Paratuberculosis).
5. That the milk or milk products do not constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases such as vibriosis, leptospirosis, trichomoniasis, brucellosis, Johnes disease and bovine leucosis. In the case of brucellosis, the herds have been free for 2 years and in case of Bovine Leucosis and Johnes disease for 5 years.
 6. That the milk products were prepared from raw milk derived from animals not showing clinical signs of a disease that can be transmitted through milk/milk products and that the raw milk was produced, handled and kept hygienically and subjected to preliminary
 7. Qualitative tests including resazurin test, adulteration tests, and organoleptic tests etc. and found to be of good quality before processing.
 8. The products were manufactured in establishments approved for the purposes of processing milk/milk products intended for export by a competent health/veterinary authority and are under constant supervision by the same authority.
 9. The products were subjected to an initial treatment having an effect at least equivalent to that achieved by pasteurization at a temperature of at least 72 degree Celsius (161.6 degrees Fahrenheit) for at least 15 seconds so as to produce a negative reaction to the phosphatase test, followed by:
 - i. a second heat treatment involving high temperature pasteurization, UHT or sterilization, so as to produce a negative reaction to the peroxidase test.
 - or
 - ii. in case of milk powder or a dry milk-based product, a second heat treatment having an effect at least equivalent to that achieved by the first treatment, so as to produce a negative reaction to phosphatase test, followed by a drying process.
 - or
 - iii. an acidification process such that the ph value is lowered and kept at below 6 for at least one hour.
 10. The products do not contain any harmful additives and are unconditionally passed safe and fit for human consumption and are permitted to circulate and be distributed in Kenya.
 11. Do not contain foreign substances including toxins (microbial or otherwise) or chemical residues in concentrations injurious to health.
 12. The products have not been exposed to radioactive contamination and have a radioactivity level not exceeding 21 bq per kg (2.205 lbs) calculated on CS 137.
 13. The products have been processed, handled, packed, stored, and transported or shipped hygienically and all necessary precautions taken to prevent contamination and that they are sound prior to dispatch.
 14. The products were subjected to necessary quality control including laboratory tests and found to be of good quality and free from pathogenic organisms including coliforms, listeria etc.
 15. The products were manufactured from milk derived from animals reared within the country of origin.
 16. The products are not of inferior quality than otherwise specified under the various Kenyan standards. The milk/milk products shall be consigned direct to Kenya without trans-shipment.

17. The original copy of the import permit with a certificate indicating compliance together with other required certificates shall be presented to all the relevant authorities (port health, customs, and veterinary officials) at the point of entry.
18. At the direction of the health/veterinary officials at entry point, samples of imported milk/milk products may be taken and subjected to various tests as may be deemed necessary at the expense of the importer.

Note that the process can only be started by an application from the importer and issue of a no-objection permit with these requirements, upon approval of the application by our relevant authorities, on a case-by-case basis. When more conditions such as risk analysis are considered, the same shall be required.

C. No objection permit to import egg and egg products

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES STATE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK

<p>Telegrams: "VETLAB", Kabete</p> <p>Telephone: 020 – 2067641 and 020-2700705</p> <p>Fax: 020-2026212</p> <p>E-mail: cvfokabete@yahoo.com, director@dvsokabete.go.ke</p>		<p>DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES, VETERINARY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, PRIVATE BAG, 00625 KANGEMI</p>
<p>When replying, please quote:</p> <p><i>All correspondences should be addressed to:</i></p> <p>The Director of Veterinary Services</p> <p><i>Parcel by rail: Nairobi Station</i></p>		<p>Date of Issue:</p> <p>Valid Until:</p> <p>Application No:</p>

Requirements for egg and egg products

1. The processing plant is approved and designated for export by *the highest veterinary authorities of the country of origin* and have a control/establishment number and are under constant supervision by the same authorities.
2. That the processing, handling, packing, loading of the egg powder was done under the most proper hygiene conditions in accordance with the basic sanitary rules and regulations.
3. The egg powder does not contain foreign substances or chemical residues in concentrations injurious to human health.

4. The poultry from which the egg powder was derived were drawn from regions or farms known to be free for at least 6 months from all the infectious and contagious diseases particularly highly pathogenic avian influenza, fowl plague and newcastle disease.
5. The farm where the eggs originate has been tested and found to be free from *Salmonella enteritidis*, and no case of vologenic newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis, infectious laryngotracheitis, avian encephalomyelitis, infectious bursal disease or chronic respiratory disease due to *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* or *M. synoviae*, salmonellosis (including *S. pullorum*) has been diagnosed on the farm for at least 3 months prior to exports.
6. The eggs from which egg powder was derived were subjected to thorough inspection by official veterinarian and were unconditionally passed as sound, wholesome and fit for human consumption.
7. That poultry from which the eggs and egg powder was derived originated from the country of origin.
8. The egg powder shall be transported direct from the processing plant of the country of origin to Kenya. There shall be no trans-shipment.
9. The egg powder shall be transported from the country of origin to the importers stores by means that do not predispose the product to contamination.
10. Every consignment must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate, indicating the number of the designated processing plant the egg powder was processed, signed or endorsed by the veterinarian duly authorized by the government veterinary authority of the exporting country giving details of the consignment.
11. Permits are issued valid for one consignment only and must be presented to the veterinary officer at the port of entry into Kenya.

Note that the process can only be started by an application from the importer and issue of a no-objection permit with these requirements, upon approval of the application by our relevant authorities, on a case-by-case basis.

D. Import permit for GM containing products

**NATIONAL BIO-SAFETY AUTHORITY
Application Form for Import, Export and
Transit of Genetically Modified Organisms**

<p>1. Name, address (<i>including physical address</i>) and contact details of the importer/exporter</p> <p><u>Applicant:</u></p>	<p>Type of application (<i>Tick as appropriate</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import • Export • Transit
<p>2. Contact details of the competent authority as applicable.</p>	<p>2.1 Importing /Destination country</p>
	<p>2.2 Exporting country</p>
<p>3. Name, address and contact details of the supplier.</p>	<p>4. Country of origin</p>
	<p>5. Expected date of import/export/ transit</p>
<p>6. Common name, scientific name, commercial name or unique identifier code of the genetically modified organism.</p>	<p>7. Port:</p> <p>7.1 Entry into Kenya</p> <p>7.2 Exit from Kenya</p>
<p>8. Evidence of approval of the genetically modified organism from the exporting country (Attach)</p>	<p>9. Consent for import from the destination country (in case of export or transit).</p>

10. The intended use of the genetically modified organism in Kenya and what it was used for in the exporting country	11. The quantity of the genetically modified organism to be imported into Kenya
12. A summary of the risk assessment report	
13. Methods and plans for safe handling, storage, transport, and use, including packaging, labelling, documentation, disposal, and contingency procedures.	
14. Describe the emergency response plan in Kenya in the event of an accident with the genetically modified organisms	

Declaration by applicant

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the particulars given in this application are true and correct.

Declared by _____
Declarant

Date, Nairobi

Note: Kenya maintains an import ban on genetically modified (GM) agricultural and products.

Attachments:

No Attachments