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Report Highlights:

Poland applies European Union (EU) regulatory requirements for all food of animal- and plant-origin. Although the EU has harmonized export certificate requirements for most products, Poland maintains national-level oversight for products still not harmonized under the EU. Poland's competent authorities can be consulted on a case-by-case basis regarding requirements for non-EU harmonized products. The EU requires that all requisite products be accompanied by sanitary and/or phytosanitary certificates at the port of entry.

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DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared by U.S. Embassy Warsaw’s Office of Agricultural Affairs (FAS/Warsaw) for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate, either because policies have changed since 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.

This Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Certificate report should also be read in conjunction with the FAS Warsaw’s 2025 FAIRS Annual Country report, as well as the EU FAIRS Country report and EU FAIRS Export Certificate report prepared by the Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA U.S. Mission to the EU (FAS/USEU). All reports are available from Global Agricultural Information Network ([GAIN](#)).

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

Executive Summary

European Union (EU) legislation mandates various health and supervisory requirements to guarantee imports meet the standards of production in Member States and are equally applied at EU borders. The EU requires veterinary and/or general health certificates to accompany each shipment of animals, meat, and other animal products, which must be signed and dated by competent U.S. certifying authorities prior to shipment. The EU also harmonized import requirements for plants and plant products, which are published in a single regulation. Unlike veterinary products, the EU employs only one model certificate for all plants and plant products. Poland applies EU export certification requirements for imported products. However, Poland maintains national-level oversight for products still not harmonized under the EU.

Section I. List of Required Export Certificates

The EU is a major importer of food and feed. Strict import rules with respect to food and feed hygiene, consumer safety, and animal health status aim at assuring that all imports fulfill the same high standards as products from the EU itself. Import controls are crucial in verifying compliance of food and feed products with relevant requirements. Poland applies EU certification requirements for imported products. Poland closely follows EU legislation and requires the same export certificates for U.S. products as other EU member states.

| Product(s) | Title of Certificate | Attestation Required on Certificate | Purpose | Polish Authority Responsible for Border Control |
|---|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| Live Animals and Genetics | Health Certificate | Attestation is dependent on the product. The most recent updated models of certificates were published in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403 | Animal Health | The Veterinary Inspection (IW) |
| Food Products of Animal Origin | Health Certificate | Attestation is dependent on the product. The most recent updated models of certificates for food of animal origin were published in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235 | Animal Health/Food Safety | IW |
| Animal Products NOT for Human Consumption | Health Certificate or Declaration | Attestation is dependent on the product. The most recent updated models of certificates were published in Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 | Animal Health | IW |
| Food Composite Products | Health Certificate or Private Attestation | Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/2292 establishes specific entry conditions for composite products. The most recent updated models of certificates for composite products were published in | Food Safety | IW/The State Sanitary Inspection (PIS) |

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--------------|---|
| | | Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235 | | |
| Plants and Plant Products which can introduce pests | Phytosanitary Certificate | Harmonized EU import requirements for plants and plant products are published in Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 . The EU employs only one model certificate for all plants and plant products. This is consistent with international guidance as provided by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) . For the United States, USDA’s Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issues the phytosanitary certificate with the requisite attestations to specific requirements of the EU. | Plant Health | The State Plant Health and Seed Inspection (PIORIN) |

If the EU certification requirements are not harmonized for such products, then rules of the individual Member State would apply. The import agent should have guidance to provide on the Member State requirement for the product in question. If not, request guidance on current requirements from the FAS/Warsaw (see Appendix for contact information). U.S. regulatory agencies which issue export certificates usually identify specific Member States requirements in their export libraries and guides.

Polish national rules will apply to imports of live animals and genetics not specified in the EU legislation. According to Polish national law (Act on protection of animal health and eradication of animal diseases), each consignment of EU non-harmonized species of live animals imported from non-EU countries to Poland must be covered by an individual import license issued for a Polish importer and accompanied by an official certificate issued by competent authority of the country of origin. That certificate must be a confirmation of fulfilling health requirements indicated by Polish Chief Veterinary Officer in individual import license. The certificate has to be presented to the official border veterinary officer at the border control post (BCP) upon the entry to the EU. The detailed information is available (Polish version only) here: <https://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/handel-eksport-import/pozostale-zwierzeta>.

Purpose of the Export Certificates

Poland conforms to all EU regulations and directives. Therefore, it is recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the FAS/USEU EU FAIRS Export Certificate report.

Section II. Specific Attestation Required on the Export Certificate

For the identity check of a shipment, the Polish Veterinary Inspection authorities require the container seal number be printed on the veterinary certificate. A seal number on the bill of lading is not sufficient, as these can be easily re-issued by private companies. In the models of the certificates for food of animal origin, which were published in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235, only the official seal number must be stated. An official seal number applies if a seal is affixed to the container, truck, or rail wagon under the supervision of the competent authority issuing the certificate. If no seal number is present on the certificate, a physical check may be necessary to verify the identity of the shipment.

Section III. Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

Poland follows general EU requirements. Polish legislation indicates the national authorities competent to perform duties established in the EU law. Therefore, it is recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the FAS/USEU EU FAIRS Export Certificate report.

The EU recognizes the United States as eligible to export some animal products. The EU requires pre-approval for export establishments, based on official U.S. requests. The U.S. regulatory agencies which typically determine export establishment eligibility to ship to the EU are Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), APHIS, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). EU-approved establishments may be subject to EU inspections.

Mandatory channeling of products to border control entities and uniform frequencies for checks apply to live animals, products of animal origin, and plants and plant products due to the risk those commodities might pose in relation to animal or plant health respectively. The EU requires each shipment of animals or products of animal origin to be accompanied by original specific veterinary and/or general health certificates which are signed and dated by a competent U.S. certifying official prior to shipment. Certificates must be issued before the consignments to which they relate leave the control of the competent authority. Certificates must bear the signature of the official veterinarian or the certifying officer and the official stamp. The color of the signature and the color of stamp, other than embossed or watermarked stamp, must be different to the color of the printing. Certificates are issued for each consignment, which is understood as a number of animals or quantity of goods conveyed by the same means of transport and coming from the same territory or third country, and being of the same type, class, or description.

In accordance with [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2235](#), certificates for the entry into the EU of animals, products of animal origin, composite products, sprouts for human consumption and seeds intended for the production of sprouts for human consumption which include an animal health attestation can only be signed by the official veterinarian. The certificate must be drawn up in the official language, or in one of the official languages, of the member state of the border control post of entry into the EU.

Non-compliance may result in rejection of shipment at the EU point of entry. The U.S. regulatory agencies that issue health certificates (FSIS, APHIS, AMS, NOAA, and FDA) have all included relevant requirements in their export libraries.

Based on Article 15b of the 2004 Act on Veterinary Inspection (consolidated Polish version in Journal of Laws 2024, item 12, as amended), the border veterinary officer of the Polish Veterinary Inspection is the competent authority to carry out official border checks and perform other official activities concerning animals and goods at the BCP.

Official veterinary control at the external border of the EU involves verifying the compliance of animals/goods imported into the EU in terms of animal health and welfare and/or consumer health safety. This control is carried out upon request, therefore it is essential that the applicant prepares the relevant documents in advance, allowing them to notify the border veterinarian at the BCP of their intention to import the consignment into the EU before its expected arrival and to declare the consignment for inspection when it arrives.

Animals and products of animal origin may be imported if:

- The consignment contains an original veterinary certificate drawn up in at least one official language designated by the border inspection and the country of final destination issued by the competent authority of the country of origin
- Products are labeled in a way that can be identified
- Products come from the lists published by the European Commission (in the case of products for which import requirements are specified in the EU regulations)
 - List of authorized third countries or their parts; and
 - List of establishments authorized to introduce the products into the EU

The list of third countries from which imports of certain product are permitted to the EU and the lists of eligible establishments in those countries are published on the European Commission's website. The lists are available [here](#).

Veterinary border control takes place at BCPs approved in accordance with the [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1014](#) which details rules on minimum requirements for border control posts, including inspection centers, the format, and categories and abbreviations used for the lists of border control posts and control points.

Section IV. Other Certification or Accreditation

According to the 2006 Act on Feed (consolidated Polish version in [Journal of Law 2025, item 320](#)) feeds or medicated feeds entering the EU customs territory through the Polish BCP are subject to official inspection by a border veterinary officer in accordance with the rules set forth in Chapter V of Regulation 2017/625. As a result, with no harmonized rules at the EU level, in Poland feed with no ingredients of animal origin is subject to veterinary border checks.

Border control of feed is carried out at the veterinary BCPs listed in the 2022 Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (Polish version in [Journal of Law 2022, item 1677](#)) on the list of border crossings where official control of feeds and medicated feeds may be carried out. Import of

consignments of feed is possible from non-EU establishments which have a representation on the territory of Poland and are entered in the register of non-EU establishments kept by the Chief Veterinary Officer, or which have a representation on the territory of another EU Member State. Article 36-41 of the 2006 Act on Feed set forth the rules for establishing the representation.

U.S. Radiation Monitoring

The EU does not require attestation of radioactivity for imports.

Poland conforms to all EU regulations and directives. Therefore, it is recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the FAS/USEU EU FAIRS Export Certificate report.

Appendix I. Direct Hyperlink, Electronic Copy, Scanned Copy, or Outline of Each Export Certificate

Direct hyperlinks to the EU models of export certificates by category are listed in Section I. List of Required Export Certificates.

Additional detailed information on export certification can be found in the FAS/USEU EU FAIRS Export Certificate report.

For additional information concerning market access, other import requirements, or the current list of importers, please contact FAS/Warsaw:

U.S. Embassy, Poland
United States Department of Agriculture/Foreign Agricultural Service
Regional Office of Agricultural Affairs (Covering Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia)
Warsaw, Poland
Ph: +48 22 504 2336
Email: agwarsaw@state.gov

Appendix II. Instructions for Exporters of FDA Regulated Products Certified by Other Agencies

FDA-regulated products covered by this section include dairy products, honey and other apiculture products, egg and egg products regulated by the FDA, composite products regulated by the FDA, and seafood.

For each of these products, the exporter needs to assess whether they must obtain a health certificate to accompany shipments sent to the EU. Exporters should be aware that NOAA issues the health certificates required by the EU for seafood. AMS issues the health certificates required by the EU for the other product groups.

In addition, the exporter will have to check whether the animal origin ingredient or product supplier is listed on the appropriate EU approved establishment list in TRACES. The handling of the listing process, whereby companies are included in the list of EU approved establishments, remains under the responsibility of FDA.

Products not needing controlled temperatures during transport may not require a U.S. Government-issued certificate. Most animal origin ingredients must be sourced from EU-approved establishments listed in TRACES. Animal ingredient suppliers in the United States will have to work with the FDA to be listed. Consignments shipped to the EU must rely on a private declaration from the importer to convey information regarding the establishment where the animal product ingredient is sourced. This will not be conveyed as part of a U.S. government certificate.

Seafood

The EU export health certificate attests to the safety of fish and fishery, both wild and aquaculture, and is required by the EU Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection. U.S. exports of seafood products to the EU are subject to establishment listing requirements as a precondition for market access. Establishments may apply for inclusion on these lists via the FDA [Export Listing Module \(ELM\)](#). Please visit the [Online Applications for Export Lists](#) for a link to this electronic system and for step-by-step instructions. Please note, the EU will only accept export certificates signed after an establishment has been added to the list published on the [European Commission website](#) and only when the list has entered into force. Once listed, U.S. establishments may contact the NOAA Seafood Inspection Program to request export certificates for U.S. seafood exports to the EU. These certificates must be requested and issued prior to shipment of the product. [Follow this link to submit a request online.](#)

Dairy to the EU

USDA's AMS is the certifying agency for [EU export certificates for dairy products](#) regulated by the FDA. For more information, contact DairyExportsQuestions@usda.gov.

In order to obtain an EU Health Certificate, manufacturers must have their final production, blending, and/or packing facility listed on the directory of EU approved facilities on the [European Commission website](#). Exporters should check whether the manufacturing facility for exported products has been included on this list. Exporters may apply for inclusion on these lists through the ELM. Please visit the [Online Applications for Export Lists](#) for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions.

Honey and Other Apiculture Products to the EU:

The EU requires a Chapter 45 certificate with public health attestations for imports of the following apiculture products intended for human consumption: honey, beeswax, royal jelly, propolis, or pollen imported under the Harmonized System (HS) code headings 0409, 0410, 1212, 1521, and 1702.

Exporters of these products should contact SCIinspectionoperations@usda.gov to obtain a Chapter 45 certificate.

The EU also requires establishments that produce (process, bottle, or pack) honey or other apiculture products exported to the EU to be registered in [TRACES](#) as approved establishments. Further information may be found on FDA's website here: <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-export-lists/honey-and-other-apiculture-export-lists>; and in USDA FAS's [GAIN report](#).

Composite products (see below) containing apiculture products as an ingredient fall outside the scope of the Chapter 45 certificate.

Eggs and Egg Products:

AMS is the certifying agency for export certificates for egg products regulated by FDA. AMS's Livestock, Poultry and Seed Division is responsible for EU export certificates for food products containing eggs or egg products that are regulated by FDA. In addition to shell eggs, FDA-regulated egg products include hard boiled eggs, cooked omelets, frozen egg patties, imitation egg products, noodles, cake mixes, dietary foods, dried no-bake custard mixes, egg nog mixes, acidic dressings, mayonnaise, milk and egg dip, foods containing egg extracts, French toast, sandwiches containing eggs or egg products, and balut and other similar ethnic delicacies. For more information on jurisdiction overlap for commercial products regulated by either or both FDA and USDA, please refer to the following website: <https://www.fda.gov/media/172542/download>.

U.S. exports of eggs and egg products to the EU are subject to establishment listing requirements as a precondition for market access. Establishments may apply for inclusion on these lists via the ELM. Please visit the [Online Applications for Export Lists](#) for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions. When plant ingredients are added to egg products, exporters should consult the below section on composite products.

Composite Products:

The EU defines a composite product as a food product containing both processed products of animal origin and products of plant origin. This section only concerns composite products regulated by FDA. It does not concern composite products produced at FSIS-regulated facilities bearing the USDA mark of inspection.

EU legislation distinguishes three categories of composite products: (1) non-shelf stable composite products, (2) shelf stable composite products that contain meat products and (3) shelf stable products that do not contain meat products. These three products have different [entry requirements](#).

The EU requires composite product certificates for all non-shelf stable products and for shelf stable products with a meat ingredient.

All composite product certificates are available from [ATLAS](#) and managed by the AMS Dairy Program, irrespective of the ingredients in the final product. Prior to requesting a certificate from AMS Dairy Program, a new customer will need to establish a [USDA level 2 e-authentication account](#). Go to [AMS Dairy Program – EU Dairy and Composite Product Certification Programs | Agricultural Marketing Service](#) for additional information.

In 2025, changes are being implemented to the certificates for composite products that contain a processed honey or apiculture product ingredient and for composite products that contain gelatin or collagen derived from ruminant bones. For composite products containing gelatin or collagen derived from ruminant bones, the approval number from establishment list on [TRACES gelatin](#) or [TRACES collagen](#) must be indicated in the certificate. Composite product certificates for products containing processed honey or apiculture products must also indicate the establishment registration number from the appropriate [TRACES](#) list. All certificates issued after November 19, 2025 must include this information. For further information, please see FDA's website: <https://www.fda.gov/food/exporting-food-products-united-states/food-export-lists>, or contact FDA at: hfpexportcertification@fda.hhs.gov.

Shelf-stable composite products that do not contain meat do not require an export certificate. If the product contains animal ingredients of animal origin, the EU importer will have to complete and sign a private attestation. In the attestation, they must provide the TRACES establishment number for the ingredient of animal origin. Since the introduction of the establishment listing for honey and apiculture products, Member States have also requested this information in the private attestation for the processed honey ingredient.

Attachments:

No Attachments