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Report Highlights:

The Food and Agricultural Imports Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report provides an overview of the food laws and regulatory environment in Algeria as it relates to food and agricultural exports. This report is intended to be used in conjunction with the 2023 FAIRS Export Certificate Report for Algeria. Noted updates in 2023 include: Executive Summary, Labeling Requirements (Section II), Other specific labeling requirements, halal requirements, Pesticides and other Contaminants (Section V) and Import procedures (Section IX).

DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Algiers, Algeria for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, the 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. All the Official Journals (Journal Officiel) (JO.) included in this report can be found at the website: <https://www.joradp.dz/HFR/Index.htm>. (The website can be read in English. However, all the journals are in Arabic and French).

All FAS Algiers reports can be reviewed at: <https://gain.fas.usda.gov/#/search>

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Executive Summary

Trade Data Monitor (TDM) shows Algeria's imports of agricultural and related products at almost \$10 billion, or nearly 29 percent of the total imports of \$34 billion in Calendar Year (CY) 2022. The United States is the seventh leading supplier of agricultural products to Algeria. U.S. Census Bureau Trade Data show U.S. exports to Algeria totaling over \$383.3 million, up almost by one third as compared to last year.

For CY 2022, primary U.S. agricultural exports were, in order: soybeans, tree nuts, wheat, planting seeds, dairy products, forest products, live animal, feed & fodders, cotton and pulses. Overall, U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria have been on upward trend since 2020. U.S. exports increased from \$168 million in CY 2020 to almost \$290 million in CY 2021, to over \$383 million in CY 2022. This increase was primarily driven by soybean exports that rose substantially in three years, as well tree nuts. In addition, the increase in imports reflects a return to normal business after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Algerian market holds tremendous potential for U.S. livestock and genetics. The U.S. and Algerian veterinary officials reached an agreement on the certificate to export U.S. bovine semen to Algeria in September 2023. The latter is added to list of the agreed certificates. The Algerian market is now open to U.S. bovine semen, bovine embryos, hatching eggs, and day-old chicks for chicken exports to Algeria. However, the U.S. and Algerian regulatory agencies still have not yet reached an agreement on the certificates for dairy cattle, beef cattle, poultry and beef.

The agriculture sector is one of the priority sectors for the government in its efforts to diversify the economy and attract foreign and domestic investment outside the energy sector. The economic development plan of the new government elected in December 2019 focuses on reviving and diversifying the Algerian economy toward sustainable growth. The plan also proposes improvements in the business climate, development of strategic sectors, and promotion of exports while controlling imports.

To boost agricultural development and production, the government of Algeria (GOA) encourages modern industrial agriculture using satellites, digitization, and renewable energy. The government is keen to attract large-scale agricultural investments in the Highlands and the "Sahara" (South of Algeria). The development strategy promotes foreign direct investment and partnerships in the fields of cereals, oilseeds, and sugar production in addition to crushing and refinery projects, storage, packaging, and cold chain infrastructure.

Algeria has the legislative and regulatory framework for quality control of locally produced and imported food to ensure consumer safety and protection. The Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce are jointly responsible for controlling food quality and safety in Algeria. Algeria utilizes [temporary additional safeguard duty \(DAP\) regime](#) to control imports and protect domestic production. The latter remains current.

Section I. Food Laws

Algeria's overarching food safety regulations, applicable to both locally produced and imported foods, are encoded in the February 2009 [Law 09-03](#) on consumer protection and fraud prevention. This Act repeals and replaces February 7, 1989, [Law 89-02](#) on the general rules of consumer protection. In addition, Algeria has regulations on labeling, food additives, hygiene, product safety, and the control of locally produced and imported products as well as the specifications required by various foods.

The regulatory acts are published in the Official Journals (Journal Officiel, or JO) and can be found at the website: www.joradp.dz. Note that while the website can be read in English, all the journals are in Arabic and French.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Commerce are jointly responsible to control food quality and safety in Algeria.

The Ministry of Agriculture has the legislative responsibility for domestic food production and the health and safety aspects of imported agriculture and food products. Information related to domestic production and imported agricultural products can be found on the Ministry of Agriculture's website: <https://madr.gov.dz/>. The website can only be read in Arabic or French.

The Algerian Ministry of Commerce is responsible for food inspections, quality control, and combating fraud, as well as labeling regulations and laboratory inspections. Information regarding food inspection, quality control, and labeling can be found on the Ministry of Commerce's website: <https://www.commerce.gov.dz/reglementation>. This website can be read in English as well as French and Arabic.

To ensure that Algerian food standards are consistent with Codex Alimentarius, a [Codex Alimentarius National Committee](#) (Comité National du Codex Alimentarius, or CNCA) was created on January 30, 2005, by the [Executive Decree No. 05-67](#) published in JO. No 10 on February 06, 2005. The Ministry of Commerce leads the Codex Committee. The Committee has a Permanent Secretariat located at the Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging, or CACQUE (Centre Algérien du Contrôle de la Qualité et de l'Emballage).

Section II. Labeling Requirements

Algeria's labeling requirements are codified in [December 22, 2005, in Executive Decree no 05- 484](#) published on December 25, 2005, JO No 83. The decree modifies and completes the labeling and presentation requirements for foodstuffs whether pre-packed or not, presented to consumers "as is," and food destined for restaurants, hospitals, and other local communities. The decree redefines the technical terms for labeling, label, foodstuff, lot, manufacture, and packaging date, as well as shelf life, sell-by date, ingredients, and food additives.

Labeling information must be written in Arabic, or another commonly understood language in Algeria. English or French is optional. Additionally, it is required that the information is visible, legible, and indelible. The foreign label must be applied before export.

Labeling information should contain:

- Product's name
- Net amount for pre-packed food
- Name, trademark, and address of the manufacturer or packer, or distributor and of the importer if the product is imported
- Country of origin
- Manufacture lot identification
- Instructions and precautions for use
- Manufacture or packing date and consumption date in case of very perishable product
- Ingredient list
- Particular conditions for preservation
- International Irradiation symbol or the mention "treated by radiation or ionization" if applicable.

The February 28, 2009 [Order](#), published in JO No. 19 on March 25, 2009, exempted certain foodstuff labeling from the lot identification mention. Products subject to the provisions of this decree are rapidly perishable foodstuffs whose expiration date is less than or equal to three months. This decree provides that the expiration date has to be mentioned clearly on the labeling in plain text, including the day and month.

Specific Requirements for Plant Protection / Pesticides

[The March 13, 2000 Order](#), regulates the packaging and labeling of phytosanitary products (or pesticides) for agricultural use. (See Section III)

Specific Requirements for Seeds and Seedlings

[The June 18, 2006 Decree no 06-217](#), published in the JO No. 41 on 21 June 2006 regulates storage conditions, packaging, as well as labeling of seeds and seedlings. (See Sections III and VI). In addition to the commercial labels regulated by this legislation, seeds and seedlings must have an official indelible label affixed to the seed package or attached to the bunches, containers, or another seedling packaging. For all seeds and plants, the official label should show the following:

- The common name
- The scientific name
- The variety and/or the rootstock
- The number of the clone
- The production year
- The batch of production of seeds or seedlings
- The visa from the national phyto-technical authority agents' control
- Pre-basic or basic categories, certified and standard are represented using colored labels.

The Ministry of Agriculture sets the characteristics for these official labels and colors.

Any offenses or breaches of the regulation for storage, packaging, and labeling of seeds and seedlings are punishable by the penalties provided by the legislation in force.

Other Specific Labeling Requirement (s)

Nutrition Labeling

October 19, 2017, [Interdepartmental Decree](#), published in JO. No 25 on May 2, 2018, establishes the applicable food nutrition value labeling rules. This decree is pursuant to the provisions of Article 14 of November 9, 2013, [Executive Decree No 13-378](#), published in JO No 58 on November 18, 2013. These provisions apply to prepackaged foodstuffs intended for human consumption. Nutritional labeling includes:

- Declaration of nutrients (list of the nutrients)
- Additional nutritional information

Foodstuffs for which the provisions of this decree do not apply are:

- Unprocessed products that include a single ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- Processed products having, for any transformation, been subject to maturation, and which include only one ingredient or a single category of ingredients;
- Waters intended for human consumption, including those carbon and/or flavorings have been added;
- Aromatic plants, spices, or their mixtures;
- Salt and salt substitutes;
- Table-top sweeteners; Infusions (herbal or fruit), teas, decaffeinated teas, instant or soluble teas or tea extracts, teas instant or soluble or decaffeinated tea extracts, with no added ingredients other than flavorings that do not affect the nutritional value of tea;
- Fermented vinegar and its substitutes, including those that only added ingredients are flavorings;
- Aromas;
- Food additives;
- Technological aids;
- Food enzymes;
- Gelling substances;
- Yeasts;
- Chewing gum;
- Foodstuffs, including homemade products, supplied directly by the manufacturer in small quantities to the final consumer or local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.

Barcode Requirements

In 2021, a new order was issued to implement the affixation of barcodes on products destined for human consumption. [February 16, 2021, Interministerial Order](#) published in the JO. No 23 on March 28, 2021, provides the technical regulations setting the terms and conditions applicable to affixing the barcode to the products intended for human consumption. The provisions of this decree apply to any food and non-food products, prepackaged, locally manufactured, or imported, intended for human consumption.

Excluded from the scope of this decree are:

- raw materials intended for manufacturing, processing, and packaging;

- products acquired by border barter;
- products acquired directly for the exclusive consumption of foreign companies' staff or organizations;
- products acquired by free shops, catering services, international passenger transport companies, classified hotels, tourist establishments, the Algerian Red Crescent, and similar duly approved associations and organizations;
- products acquired by economic operators for their professional use.

Imported products must bear a barcode issued by an organization recognized in their country of origin. The following information must be contained in the barcode and submitted in advance to the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Chambre Algerienne de Commerce et d'Industrie, CACI):

1)- For foodstuffs:

- the product description;
- the name or company name registered trademark and the address of the manufacturer or packer or distributor or importer when the food is imported;
- the country of origin and/or provenance from where the food is imported;
- the list of ingredients;
- the ingredients and foodstuffs and their derivatives, causing allergies or intolerances, used in the manufacture or preparation of a foodstuff and which are still present in the finished product, even in a modified form;
- the nutritional labeling;
- the net quantity expressed according to the international metric system;
- the special storage conditions and/or of use;
- the "actual alcoholic strength by volume" title for beverages containing more than 1.2% alcohol by volume;
- the term "halal" when applicable;
- the product photo;
- any other useful information may also be added.

2)- For non-food products:

- the product description;
- the name or company name registered trademark, and the address of the manufacturer or conditioner or distributor or the importer when the product is imported;
- the country of origin and/or provenance from where the product was imported;
- the safety-related mark of conformity;
- the references of the prior authorization, for products needing authorization;
- the net weight of the product expressed in international metric system units;
- safety precautions;
- the composition of the product and the storage conditions;
- the product photo;
- any other useful information can also be added.

The barcode accompanied by the Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) must be affixed to the product packaging. The barcode must relay the mandatory information, in Arabic, with the option of another language accessible to the consumer. This mandatory information must be registered in the authorized organization's platform.

The bar code must be affixed visibly and indelibly, allowing information to be read by optical readers as provided by article 9 of this decree.

For locally manufactured products, the barcode is affixed after receiving a barcode number issued by the authorized organization.

Any organization carrying out product barcode coding activity can introduce to the Ministry in charge of consumer protection and fraud prevention (Ministry of Commerce), a request for accreditation to be responsible for issuing the code number with bars. The decree outlines in article 15, all the conditions and requirements for this accreditation.

Section III. Packaging and Container Requirements

Plant Protection/ Pesticides

[The March 13, 2000 Ordinance](#), published in the JO. No 28 on May 14, 2000, regulates the packaging of phytosanitary products for agricultural use (pesticides). The latter must be contained in strong, watertight packaging, on which the following information and indications are affixed, indelible and legible, in Arabic and another language. These include:

- Name and address of the manufacturer.
- The trade name and the registration number of the product in Algeria.
- The chemical and centesimal composition of the active substances or the biological titration of the products expressed in international units.
- The dose, the instructions for use, and the users for whom the product has been approved in Algeria as well as the possible contraindications.
- Production and expiration dates.
- Special safety precautions for the use and preservation.
- First aid and antidotes when / if they exist
- The time before harvest and the last application on the plants to be protected.

In addition, particularly dangerous agricultural products for agricultural use must bear pictograms illustrating the nature of the danger associated with their use.

Seeds and Seedlings

[The June 18, 2006 Decree No 06-217](#), published in JO. No 41 on June 21, 2006, regulates storage conditions, packaging, and labeling of seeds and seedlings. Storage conditions for seeds and seedlings are defined technically by species and group of species by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Seeds can only be marketed in hermetic packaging to guarantee the best conditions for their conservation. Seedlings with roots can be marketed in bunches. They are also marketed in containers or

by any other means to guarantee the quality of the plant.

In addition to the commercial labels, for seed and propagating material, an official label must be affixed to the seed package or attached to bunches, containers or other plant packing means.

Materials in Contact with Foodstuffs

The [November 23, 2016, Executive Decree No16-299](#), published in the JO. No 69 on December 6, 2016, regulates the conditions for use of objects and materials that come in contact with foodstuffs as well as cleaning preparations made from these materials. In 2021, a new order was issued to regulate the rubber materials that come in contact with foodstuffs. The [January 16, 2021 Order published in JO. No 22](#) outlines the specifications related to objects or materials made of rubber intended for use in contact with foodstuffs. The decree outlines the inertia criteria that rubber materials or objects should comply with to be used in contact with food. The decree also provides the list of polymers used for rubber manufacture destined for use with foodstuffs (Annex I), classification of rubber materials (annex II) as well as authorized additives to polymers used in contact with food (annex III).

Packaging Waste

In 2001, Algeria set the regulation for packaging wastes by [Decree No 01-19 on December 12, 2001](#), published in JO. No 77 on December 15, 2001. In 2002, this decree was amended by the November 11, 2002 Decree No 2-372 published in JO. No 74 on November 13, 2002. This decree defines the methods of valuation of waste by their generator and/or holder as well as the waste disposal conditions for waste that holders or generators cannot value, particularly, packaging waste. The decree's article 8 provides a requirement to comply with specifications for waste recycling. By this article, the packaging waste recycling company is required to take back, collect and direct packaging waste to reuse, recycling or disposal, under conditions specified in the law. The specifications provided in article 8, must include the terms for packaging waste storage, as well as the collection, recycling, and disposal methods. By this decree the packaging waste recycling company, duly accredited is required to ensure the recycling of the packaging waste is carried out under conditions compliant with environmental standards. The decree also outlines the public system for treatment of the packaging wastes.

Section IV. Food Additive Regulations

The May 15, 2012, [Executive Decree No 12-214](#), published in the JO. No 30 on May 16, 2012, sets out terms and conditions for use of food additives in food for human consumption. The decree was issued based on a joint report by the Ministries of Commerce, Health, Industry, SME, and Agriculture. This decree lists the authorized additives in food ([Annex I](#)), the list of food categories in which additives can be incorporated ([Annex II](#)), and the additives that can be incorporated in food and their maximum limit authorized ([Annex III](#)).

Copies of Annexes I, II, and III and the updates are also available at the Regional Commerce Directorates of each region (or the *wilaya*), at the Algeria Center for Quality Control and Packaging (CACQUE), as well as the Chambers of Commerce and Industries.

The additives incorporated in animal feed are excluded from the scope of this decree. Contaminants and pesticide residues are not considered under any circumstances as food additives.

Only halal food additives (any food additive whose consumption is permitted by the Muslim religion) can be incorporated into foodstuffs. For agro-industry use, “halal” and “nature of the food additive” may appear either on the packaging or in the documents accompanying the product.

The detailed use (ways of incorporation, quantities, and maximum concentrations) of the food additive is listed in the decree.

[June 20, 2016, Interministerial Order published in the JO, No 68](#) regulates the maximum residue limits of veterinary drugs in food. [This decree](#) fixes the list and the maximum residue limits of veterinary drugs and pharmacologically active substances tolerated in food of animal origin. This decree also provides the list of restricted veterinary drugs and pharmacologically active substances in food of animal origin. [These lists are provided in annexes on the Ministry of Commerce’s website.](#)

Section V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants

Algeria regulates imports and exports of pesticides, also commonly referred to in Algeria as phytosanitary products for agricultural use. The phytosanitary authority represented by the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT) oversees pesticide regulation and enforcement. All phytosanitary products for agricultural use must be subject to prior approval issued by the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT). (See Section VII).

[January 31, 2010, Executive Decree n °10-69](#), published in JO. No 09 on February 3, 2010, establishes the measures applicable when importing and exporting plant products for agricultural use. Per the regulations in force, only licensed importers can import phytosanitary products for agricultural use. In addition, importers must receive supplies from manufacturers and/or companies authorized in their country of origin by their competent authorities. Imports are prohibited when the products are not approved in their country of origin. Imports must be accompanied by a bulletin of analysis corresponding to each lot justifying that the product complies with requirements that preceded its approval in Algeria. The bulletin must be delivered by a laboratory approved by the official services of the country of origin.

The December 15, 2014, [Executive Decree No. 14-366](#), published in the JO. No 74 on December 25, 2014, defines and fixes the terms and conditions related to contaminants tolerated in food intended for human consumption. The decree lists the components that are considered contaminants when they exceed the maximum limits tolerated:

- Pesticide residues
- Residues of technological processing
- Residues of veterinary medicinal products or residues of pharmacologically active substances
- Natural toxins such as toxic metabolites, and mycotoxins that are present in the food is not intentional
- Microbial toxins produced by algae that accumulate in edible aquatic organisms like shells and crustaceans
- Other chemical contaminants such as nitrates, heavy metals, dioxins, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

- Contaminants by radioactive elements such as radionuclides.

On October 7, 2019, Algeria published the March 6, 2019, [new Order](#) in JO No 62. The order establishes the authorized ingredients or groups of components, as well as their concentrations in the cleaning products of material or equipment that will be in contact with foodstuffs. This list is included in the annex of the decree.

New regulation regarding products used for fumigation: Starting from October 2022, only aluminum phosphide or magnesium phosphide are allowed for fumigation in Algeria. A note was issued by the ministry of Agriculture's DPVCT on October 28, 2022 to implement and remind about this new regulation as a note related to this regulation was already issued in 2020 and was not effectively implemented. All products subject to fumigation including tree nuts should comply to this new regulation.

Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations, and Registration Measures

Algeria has several other registration measures that must be completed before export. A certificate of conformity and quality as well as a certificate of origin are mandatory for all imported products along with the customs documents (bill of lading and commercial invoice). The regulation regarding the conformity control at the borders can be found at: <https://www.commerce.gov.dz/reglementation/decret-executif-n-deg-05-467>

Phytosanitary certificates are mandatory for all food products. A certificate of fumigation and Isotopic are mandatory for the grains.

Additional Requirements for Plant, Seeds, and Seedling Imports:

The National Center for Certification and Control of Seeds and Plants (CNCC) oversees the plant and seeds marketing process in Algeria: <http://cncc.dz/contact> (see Appendix I). Article 17 of [the February 6, 2005 Law no 05-03](#) provides that only plant varieties approved and registered in the Varieties' Official Catalog are authorized to be produced, bred, imported, exported, distributed, and marketed in Algeria. Procedures to apply for registration of varieties and species are in the official catalog of species and varieties and can be found at: <http://madrp.gov.dz/agriculture/services-phytosanitaire/procedures/>.

All plant or plant products are subject to import authorization before importation. The specifications are listed in the authorization for each product. The phytosanitary authority (DPVCT) of the Ministry of Agriculture issues the import authorization at the request of the importer at least thirty days (30) before the planned date of import. This authorization is valid for three (03) months from the date of its signature and is only valid for one shipment. To import these products, the importer must request officially from the Ministry of Agriculture the importation by submitting a file consisting of the following:

- a request for the technical import authorization;
- the agreement of the activity if the importer is producing seeds and seedlings;
- the agreement of the activity if the importer is selling seeds and seedlings;
- a farmer's identification card for those engaged in agricultural production;

- a phytosanitary certificate issued by the official phytosanitary services of the production zone that must be free, attesting that the plant material is subject to control and monitoring by the phytosanitary services of the production area;
a certification scheme for certified material or product;
- a certificate of non-GMO attesting that the plant material has not undergone any transfer or modification of genes;
- an International Orange newsletter (for any dry seed).

Among these documents, the non-GMO certificate needs to accompany the products to attest that the plant material has not undergone any transfer or modification of genes. Genetically engineered plant material importation, production, distribution, and commercialization as well as their utilization is prohibited by the Ministry of Agriculture's December 24, [Decree](#) (published in the Official Journal on January 7, 2001), except for research purposes. The plant material includes live plants or pieces of live plants, including their dormant buds, tendrils, grafts, and tubers, as well as rhizomes, cuttings, shoots, and seeds intended for propagation and reproduction.

In addition, [the Order of April 7, 2004](#) (published in JO. No 07 of January 23, 2005) amends and supplements the Order of May 21, 1995, establishing the phyto-technical and phytosanitary standards for imports of seeds and seedlings of the vegetables, cereals, fruits, and viticulture. This decree lists the crops and seeds with the standards for varietal purity, humidity, and germination rates for the different categories as well as the phytosanitary standards for seeds.

[February 6, 2005, Law no 05-03](#), published in JO. No 11 on February 9, 2005, regulates the seeds and seedlings approval, production, breeding, and marketing of seeds and seedlings used in plant production as well as plant variety protection. This Act describes the process for approval of varieties of seeds and seedlings and controls the conditions of their production, their marketing, and their use as well as the protection of new varieties of plants.

The law defines the National Phyto-technical Authority which falls under the Ministry of Agriculture. This authority oversees approving varieties of seeds and seedlings and controls the conditions of their production, their marketing, and their use as well as the protection of new varieties of plants. It comprises a national seed and planting commission and includes specialized technical committees and technical inspectors.

Specifically for Grain and Feed Imports:

From April 5, 2023, grain importers must obtain a phytosanitary authorization from the Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate of Plant Protection and Technical Control (DPVCT) to import corn and soybean, and soybean meal. Ostensibly, this measure is meant to prevent harmful organisms from infesting corn and soybean destined to be used in animal feed, and in particular, the fall armyworm. Importers must obtain the phytosanitary authorization before initiating the import procedure with a financial institution and other authorized services, including the country of origin. Authorizations must bear a date that precedes that of the Bill of Lading. Otherwise, the product will be rejected. To obtain the phytosanitary authorization, importers should also submit a detailed feed grain import program for the calendar year (CY) to the DPVCT. Note that in addition to the phytosanitary import authorization, importers must still seek a technical import authorization which was first introduced in 2002 and updated in 2015.

Specifically for Plant Protection Product Imports:

Import and sale of all phytosanitary products for agricultural use (pesticides) are subject to prior approval issued by the Phytosanitary Authority under the Plant Protection and Technical Control Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture (DPVCT). For each commercial product, parent companies must submit applications for registration directly to the DPVCT.

The application for registration of phytosanitary products for agricultural use is completed by the applicant domiciled in Algeria in person. The firm authorizing the applicant must provide the latter with a letter of accreditation authorizing the registration process. Details for registration can be accessed via [this link](#).

Specifically for Animal Product Imports:

Animal products or products of animal origin are subject to import authorization. The Veterinary Services at the Ministry of Agriculture delivers this import authorization, known as “derogation sanitaire”. For animal products and products of animal origin imports, the importer is required to include the agreement or accreditation for the hygiene of their establishment. This accreditation is necessary to obtain the import authorization or “derogation sanitaire.” A specimen of the import authorization “derogation sanitaire” can be found at [this link](#).

Specifically for Live Animal Imports:

A sanitary, veterinary inspection is required for live animals and products with animal origin upon arrival at border posts. November 16, 1991’s [Executive Decree No 91-452](#), published in the JO. No 59 on November 20, 1991, lists all the animals and products of animal origin requiring sanitary, veterinary inspection, and sanitary control. The decree defines the ports, airports, and land borders posts where imports, exports as well as transit of animals and products of animal origin are authorized to access. The decree clarifies the conditions of the implementation of chapters III and IV of [January 26, 1988, Law 88-08](#), published in the JO. No 04 on January 27, 1988, related to veterinary medicine activities and animal health protection.

The decree specifies all the animals and products of animal origin that require sanitary, and veterinary inspection upon arrival or departure at border posts. The list includes among others: cattle, poultry, meat, dairy and dairy products, eggs, and semen for artificial insemination, as well as processed products of animal origin, pasture, and animal feed. All the products listed in the law are subject to a sanitary authorization prior to import called commonly “derogation sanitaire” except processed products of animal origin, concentrates for animal feed, and pets. This authorization certifies that no reportable disease has been reported in the country of origin of the import. This document is delivered by the official veterinary services at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The sanitary control consists of:

- the sanitary veterinary health certificates required by the regulation in force;
- for animal products or of animal origin the control is supplemented with samples for laboratory analysis.
- Control of the conformity with the prescriptions in matters of disinfection and preliminary disinfection of the means of transport, hygiene of this means, and the conditions of transport of the animals, animal products, and products of animal origin.

If the inspection results in a refusal, all involved parties are notified immediately. The Ministry of Agriculture delivers the form for this decision. The owner of the refused products may notify the involved parties within 48 hours of his intention to proceed or have any expertise carried out at his own expense. The expertise may be assigned to any expert or laboratory approved by the official veterinary authority. If the refusal is maintained, the owner can appeal to the territorially competent veterinary inspector of the region (or the *wilaya*) who has five (05) working days to decide. The possible costs of bonding, storage, and other charges incurred during the appraisal and the duration of the appeal are the responsibility of the owner of the products.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards

Microbiological Requirements

Microbiological specifications are regulated for some foods by decree. The regulation was updated in 2015. The [October 4, 2016 Order](#) published in the JO. No 39 on July 2, 2017, applies the provisions of article 8 of the [June 25, 2015 Decree No 15-172](#) published in the JO. No 37 on July 8, 2015, which regulates the microbiological specifications and conditions applied to foodstuffs. The order outlines the definitions of some criteria and fixes the microbiological criteria for foodstuffs including the following:

- milk and dairy products,
- poultry meat and beef and their derivatives,
- cereals and derivatives,
- infant food,
- prepared food,
- canned food
- animal and plant fats
- eggs, pastries, and custards
- waters, juices, and soft drinks
- fruits, vegetables, and plant-based products
- confectionery
- fishery and aquaculture products-
- other food included in Annex I

The Microbiological criteria for the foodstuffs listed above are listed in Annex I of the decree. The tests' techniques and interpretation of the microbiological analyses' results for these products are listed in Annex II in the decree. The order also outlines specifications related to canned food and its packaging.

Halal Requirements

Algeria is a Muslim country. Regulations providing specifications regarding halal food products and the requirements were implemented through the following orders:

Technical Requirements: [March 17, 2014, Order](#), published in JO. No15 on March 19, 2014, describes the technical requirement for halal food, non-halal food, halal food processing requirements, and

international standards used as well as the commercialization requirements of halal food related to packaging, labeling, storage, and transportation. The decree also covers halal slaughtering and sanitary control requirements.

Labeling: The June 14, 2016, [Interministerial Order](#), published in the JO. No 70 on December 8, 2016, lays down the conditions and procedures for affixing the word "halal" for the related foodstuffs, pursuant to the provisions of Article 12 (point 14) of November 9, 2013, [Executive Decree No 13-378](#), published in the JO. No 58 on November 18, 2013. The 2013 decree guarantees the consumer's right to information and describes the components related to labeling and the ingredients labeling. As of June 2017, the halal markings on the labeling for some food products are mandatory.

Certifications: The Algerian Institute for Standardization (IANOR) is the certifying body for local products. For imported products, the authorized bodies in their countries of origin must issue the "halal" conformity certificate and the latter must be recognized by the Monitoring Committee for certification and marking "halal". This Algerian national committee is composed of several Ministries, including Agriculture, Health, Industry, and Religious Affairs as well as public bodies and institutions such as the High Islamic Council and the Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging (CACQUE).

Note that the list of products requiring halal markings was not established at that time. This list was to be determined by the National Committee for monitoring certification and marking "halal" chaired by the Ministry of Commerce. All imported products and those manufactured locally with imported raw materials were to be included in this list.

However, on June 14, 2023, Ministry of Commerce distributed Halal Certification instructions to the regional Commerce directorates, as well as border units of Fraud Prevention reporting to the Commerce Department, that imported products listed below must be accompanied by a halal certificate.

- Meat and products of animal origin and animal products
- Animal oil and fats
- Confectionaries including chocolate
- Cookies & biscuits
- Food additives of animal origin and/or composed of elements likely to be non halal because of the way they were obtained, pre-packaged and intended for resale as is or intended for the food industries.
- Milks and derivatives including caseinates
- All cheeses intended for processing or food industries
- Infant formulas and follow-on formulas
- Rennet

The instruction states that for products originating in the EU, the certificate must be issued / or endorsed by either the Grand Mosque of Paris in France, or a certification agency approved by the Grand Mosque of Paris (as well as the Grand Mosque of Paris's representatives in Spain, Italy, United Kingdom, Belgium, Swiss, and Norway). Products originating outside of the EU must be accompanied by a certificate from a recognized Halal certification authority in that country (the instructions do not elaborate requirements for a recognized authority).

Note that milk powder was later removed from this list.

Below are some U.S. organizations certifying halal in the U.S.

American Halal Foundation: <https://halalfoundation.org/>

Halalco: <https://www.halalco.us/>

Halal Food Council USA: <https://halalfoodcouncilusa.com/>

Halal Transactions of Omaha: <https://halaltransactions.org/>

IFANCA: <https://ifanca.org/>

Islamic Services of America: <https://www.isahalal.com/>

ISWA Halal Certification Department: <https://www.ushalalcertification.com/>

Section VIII. Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights

Any brand of products or services cannot be used in Algeria without having been subject to registration with the competent service. Trademarks are regulated by the July 19, 2003 [Order n° 03-06 published in the JO. No 44 on July 23, 2003](#), and August 2, 2005, [Executive Decree No 05-277 published in the Journal Official No 54 on August 7, 2005](#). The Order lays down the definitions and processes related to the acquisition of the right to the trademark, the registration, and the publication.

Trademarks must be registered at the Algerian National Institute of Industrial Property, (Institut National Algerien de la Propriete Industrielle, INAPI). Applicants domiciliated abroad may be represented by an agent to perform the registration procedure per procedures laid down by the decree. The filer must:

- prior to completing an application for registration of the mark, must research to determine possible similarities that may exist between the mark to be registered and those previously registered.
- activate an online account on the [INAPI website](#)
- complete an online trademark application form
- choose the list of products and services set under the “Nice classification”
- provide proof of payment of the filing and publication taxes.

The owners of the trademark may assert their rights and exercise their prerogatives through industrial property agents. A valid registered trademark gives the holder the right of ownership over that trademark for ten (10) years. This right grants the use or transfer with prior authorization by the owner. (source: [KPMG](#))

Algeria has been a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) since April 1975.

Section IX. Import Procedures

Conformity Control Requirements

All imported food and goods are subject to conformity control at the ports of entry. A joint team composed of inspectors from the Ministries of Commerce, Agriculture, Customs, and Transport perform this control per the terms and conditions under the provisions of January 30, 1990, [Executive Decree No 90-39](#), published in JO. No 05 on January 31, 1990, as amended and supplemented. See section VI for documents required for conformity control.

Conformity Control Procedures

The control is performed before the clearance of the imported products based on a file presented to the inspectorate at the borders by the importer or by his duly authorized representative. The file includes:

- the declaration of the importation of the product, duly filled in by the importer
- a certified copy of the extract from the trade register
- a certified copy of the invoice
- the original of any other document required by the regulations in force and relating to the conformity of the imported products.

The documents for border control of imported products are the ones provided for (above) and/or on the visual check of the product, which can be supplemented with samples. The inspection is made in such a way as not to alter the quality and/or product safety and in the same way as for a similar product of local origin.

Visual inspections are performed to ensure that the product:

- meets legal or regulatory specifications characterizing it;
- meets the conditions of its handling, transport, and storage;
- conforms to the indications given on labeling and/or accompanying documents
- is free of any possible alteration or contamination.

Sampling during border control is decided based on:

- the results of the examination of documents or the visual checks carried out
- on the origin, nature, type, presentation and the level of risk the product presents
- the history of the product, and the importer.
- the reliability of the inspections carried out at the exporting country and the places of handling.
- the priorities set by the administration responsible for consumer protection and the prevention of fraud (Ministry of Commerce).

If no offense is found after the inspection of the documents referred to above or after visual inspection of the product and if no samples are deemed necessary, the border inspection issues the importer or his duly authorized representative, an authorization of admission of the product. Otherwise, a refusal order is issued for the product and the reason for refusal must be explicitly mentioned.

When the importer disputes the reasons for admission refusal, the importer may appeal or authorize a representative at the Commerce Directorate of the wilaya to introduce an appeal. The appeal must be made within eight (8) days from the date of notification of the refusal of the product. The Commerce Directorate of the Wilaya has four (4) working days to verify the reasons given for the recourse. When these checks, materialized by a report, contradict the conclusions which motivated the decision of refusing admission, that decision is annulled. Otherwise, the refusal is maintained. The cancellation of

the refusal decision is notified to the importer by the border inspection.

When visual inspection of the product needs sampling, the sample will be sent without delay and in a condition avoiding any alteration of the product, to the quality control and fraud prevention laboratory or an approved laboratory, for analysis or tests.

Import Control and Banking Requirements

Algeria applies customs tariffs to imported goods ranging from 0 to 30 percent, depending on the product type, and a 19 percent value-added tax (VAT). Effective January 1, 2017, the Finance Law increased VAT rates from seven to nine percent and seventeen to nineteen percent for agricultural and non-agricultural products. The full list of products can be found at <http://www.joradp.dz/FTP/JO-FRANCAIS/2016/F2016077.pdf>.

Algeria applies the Harmonized Nomenclature and Classification system. The maximum rate for customs duties has been lowered to 30 percent. There are three categories for duties: 5 percent for raw materials, 15 percent for semi-processed products, and 30 percent for consumer-ready or high-value products.

In January 2019, the government introduced the [temporary additional safeguard duty \(Droit Additionnel Provisoire de Sauvegarde, \(DAPs\)](#) regime. The DAPs are intended to promote domestic production and reduce expenditures on foreign products. Although the measure is meant to be temporary, no expiration date has been included in the government ordinance.

The initial DAPs list included 1095 products, of which food items represented 60 percent and 658 were high-value and processed food products. On April 21, 2019, the Ministry of Commerce reduced the list to 922 products through the new [Ordinance, published in JO No.26](#). Food items represented 56 percent of this list. The DAPs rates for food items are either 30 percent, 70 percent, or 120 percent. The 2019 ordinance exempted some food items from the DAPs including eliminating the 30 percent additional duty on tree nuts, 70 percent additional duty on peanuts, butter, and dried fruits, and the 50 percent additional duty on beef.

Most of the U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria are bulk and intermediate commodities and are not affected by the DAPs. In 2022, the main U.S. agricultural exports to Algeria were soybeans, tree nuts, wheat, planting seeds, dairy products, forest products, live animal, feed & fodders, cotton and pulses. Since April 2019, the DAPs on tree nuts were removed.

As of October 2023, the GOA maintained the same DAPs list from 2020. Note that the GOA officials have noted that the DAPs list may be expanded in the future to as many as 2,608 products but it has not yet. The original full revised list in French with the current DAPs rate can be found at: <https://www.joradp.dz/FTP/jo-francais/2019/F2019026.pdf>. For a detailed list of DAPs rates in English, please see the following GAIN report: https://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Trade%20Policy%20Update%20Algeria_2-12-2019.pdf

In addition, a domestic consumption tax applies to about 20 products that are considered luxury goods (tariff code chapters 08, 09, 16, and 22). Information on tariffs can be found at: <http://www.douane.gov.dz/Consulter%20le%20tarif%20douanier.html>

As of January 1, 2014, Letters of Credit approved by Algerian banks or documentary collection are the only means of payment for imported goods. This is per Section 81 of the 2014 Finance Law.

Payment for goods requires an invoice with a bank domiciliation and customs clearance documents.

Effective October 22, 2017, a new requirement to regulate imports of products destined for resale as is, was introduced by the Bank of Algeria (BoA). The new instruction applies to non-agricultural as well as, agricultural products. Any imported goods for resale require the importer to deposit 120% of the import transaction value with an Algerian Bank, 30 days prior to shipment. In addition, a certificate of free movement of the product in the country of origin or provenance is required for the products destined for resale as is. (See below).

Effective January 1, 2018, banking domiciliation applications must include the following documents:

- a) Sanitary and Phytosanitary certificates delivered to the importer by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development regarding imports of bananas, wheat, barley, garlic, beef, and fish except for sardines.
- b) Prior technical authorization delivered by the Ministry of Commerce related to the import of cosmetics and toxic products
- c) Certificate of free movement of the product in the country of origin or provenance, established by a duly empowered authority in the exporting country and/or of origin attesting that the goods to be imported except (bananas, wheat, barley, beef, garlic, and fish), are actually and freely marketed on their territory per the provisions under the article 12 of the May 06, 2012, executive decree no12-203 relating to the applicable rules for the security of the product. The certificate is delivered by the chambers of commerce. Please refer to the FAIRS Export Certificate Report.

[The Decree 18-212 published in Journal Officiel No 50 on August 15, 2018](#), exempts the following raw materials and products destined for animal feed from VAT: -barley (tariff heading 10.03), corn, (tariff heading 10.05), bran, (tariff code 23.02), starch residues and similar residues (tariff heading 23-03), preparations used for feeding animals (tariff heading 23-09). Import licenses were no longer needed.

Information about Algerian Customs requirements can be found (in French) at <http://www.douane.gov.dz/>

Products/Goods Destined for Sale Requirement

Starting from December 31, 2021, imports of products or goods destined for sale as is, became subject to the [March 9, 2021 decree No 21-94](#). The purpose of this decree is to modify and supplement certain provisions of the November 30, 2005 [decree No 05-458](#) establishing the terms carrying out the import of raw materials, and for products for resale as is.

Relevant local commercial companies must import raw materials, products, and goods for resale as is, with an electronic trade register bearing homogeneous activity codes belonging to a single sub-group

activity. Importers now have an electronic trade register for every single sub-group of products they import. As the local industry reported, if the importer used to import almonds, tree nuts, pulses, or several food products under one trade register for food, as of December 31, 2021, they are required to obtain several electronic trade registers, one for tree nuts, another for pulses, another for each sub-group.

The commercial companies are required to commit, as appropriate, to one of the specifications documents setting the conditions and commitments for the import of raw materials, products, and goods intended for resale as is. The specifications are set in the annexes attached to the decree.

The certificate of compliance with the conditions, provided by provisions of Article 5 of this decree, is issued only after committing to one of the specifications documents listed in the decree. The certificate of compliance models with the conditions and specifications are set respectively in appendices 1, 2, and 3 attached to the decree.

In the event of non-compliance with the conditions provided in this decree, the certificate is withdrawn, and the withdrawal decision is notified to the trading company as well as to the involved institutions.

Since December 31, 2021, importers of those goods must comply with the new regulation. After this period, trade registers not following the provisions of this decree became invalid.

Section X: Trade Facilitation

Algeria is not a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and accordingly has not signed onto the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

In line with the strategy to meet the globalization challenges, the liberalization of international trade, and the promotion of investment, the Customs administration initiated a modernization program to facilitate customs procedures. This program includes the reduction of customs clearance times as well as customs fees. To reduce clearance times, Customs allows the following procedures:

The deposit of the manifest before the arrival of the cargo: the consignee can submit his custom declaration upon docking of the cargo after filling out the form by computer before the arrival of the cargo. In addition, to facilitate the transit, the consignee can subscribe to a simplified transit declaration which includes only the information given on the bill of lading.

Clearance from home and control on site: the exporter wishing to ship goods abroad can complete the export formalities and submit the customs declaration at the closest customs office. After verification of the containers, packages and means of transport are sealed, which avoids other verifications. The border controller will note the passage of the containers in view of the detailed export declaration. This procedure can be applied to imports of some types of products that cannot be checked at the point of entry.

Statute of the authorized economic operator (consignee): a measure instituted by the Finance Act 2010 Article 32 and included in article 81 of the Customs code. This statute provides the consignee facilitations of the customs clearance procedures.

In addition, other facilitations and detailed information on the customs facilitations are listed in the link below: <https://www.douane.gov.dz/spip.php?article70&lang=fr>

Information on customs fees can be found at: <https://www.douane.gov.dz/spip.php?article68&lang=fr>

As mentioned above, per the Algerian regulation, all imported food and goods are subject to conformity control at the ports of entry by a joint team composed of inspectors from the Ministries of Commerce, Agriculture, and Customs. Upon arrival, the type of product determines who would inspect it first. For agricultural products, the Ministry of Agriculture would do the first inspection; - the veterinary inspector would inspect any animal or animal product and dairy products; -the plant protection would inspect the plant products). Then, the Ministry of Commerce would proceed to the inspection for quality and labeling, followed by Customs. If any discrepancies occur, the first Ministry to inspect would hold the shipment.

By regulation, containers can stay 21 days at the seaport while the clearance is processed. Then, the containers will be transferred to a dry port waiting for any issues to be solved. Detained shipments can sometimes last one month or more depending on the issue.

APPENDIX I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts

Ministry of Agriculture

Address: 12 Avenue Colonel Amirouche, Algiers

Phone: (213-23)-50-32-38

Fax: (213-23)-50-31-17

Website: <http://madrp.gov.dz/>

National Institute for Plant Protection (INPV)/ Ministry of Agriculture

Address :12, Avenue des Frères Ouadek Hacén Badi, EL HARRACH - BP.80 El-Harrach

Phone: 213 (0) 23 82 88 85

Fax: 213 (0) 23 82 88 96

Website : <http://www.inpv.edu.dz/>

National Center for Control & Certification of Seeds & Plants

(Centre National de Contrôle et Certification des Semences et Plants) (CNCC)

Address : BP119, 6 Bis Hacén Badi, EL HARRACH - BP.80 El-Harrach

Phone: 213 (0) 21-52-12-13

Fax: 213 (0) 21-52-99-00

Website: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-national-de-contrôle-et-de-certification-des-semences-et-plans>

Ministry of Commerce

Address : Cité Zerhouni Mokhtar El Mohamadiah (Ex : Les Bananiers)

Phone : (213-21) 89-00-74/75...85

Fax : (213-21) 89-00-34

E-mail : info@mincommerce.gov.dz

Website: www.mincommerce.gov.dz

Algerian Center for Quality Control and Packaging /Ministry of Commerce (Centre Algérien du Contrôle de la Qualité et de l'Emballage) (C.A.C.Q.E)

Adresse : RN N °05 El Alia Bab Ezzouar

Fax : 021.24.30.11

Website: www.cacqe.org

Algerian Chamber of Commerce & Industry / Ministry of Commerce

Phone: 021 66 58 95

Mobile: 0770 68 69 64

Fax : 021 66 58 96

Website: www.cci-mezghena.dz

E-mail: contact@cci-mezghena.dz / ccimezghenaalger@gmail.com

Algerian Customs

Address: 19 rue du Docteur Saadane, Alger

Phone: (213-21)-72-59-59

Fax: (213-21)-72-59-75

Website: <http://www.douane.gov.dz/>

**Algerian Institute for Industrial Property
(Institut National Algerien de la Propriete Industrielle) (INAPI)**

Address: 42, rue Larbi BenMhidi, Algiers

Phone: (213-21)73-57-74

Fax: (213-21) 73-60-84

Website: www.inapi.org

**National Office of Copyright /Ministry of Communication & Culture
(Office National des Droits d'Auteurs et des Droits Voisins) (ONDA)**

Ministère de la Communication et de la Culture

Address: 49 rue Adberrezak Hamla,16000 Bologhine, Algiers

Phone: (213) 23 15 00 70/84

Fax: (213) 23 15 00 72

Website: <https://www.edivali.com/annuaire/office-national-des-droits-dauteurs-onda/>

APPENDIX II. Other Import Specialist Technical Contacts

Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry: <http://www.caci.com.dz/>

World Trade Center Algeria: <http://www.wtcalgeria.com>

The Official Gazette of the Republic of Algeria (Official Journal):
<http://www.joradp.dz/HFR/Index.htm>.

Algerian Organization for Accreditation (ALGERAC)/Ministry of Industry

Website: <http://algerac.dz>

KPMG Algeria SPA

Address: 94, Zone du Centre des Affaires, Bab Ezzouar, Alger, Algérie

Website: KPMG.DZ

U.S. Embassy / USDA- Foreign Agricultural Service:

Local Address: 5, Chemin Bachir Ibrahimi, El Biar, Alger, Algeria

Phone: (213-770) 08-2111/2112

Fax: (213-23) 47-17-78

E-mail: AgAlgiers@fas.usda.gov

Website: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/>

U.S. Commercial Service in Algeria: <https://www.trade.gov/algeria>

American Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.amcham-algeria.org>

U.S. Algeria Business Council: <http://www.us-algeria.org>

Attachments:

No Attachments