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Report Highlights:

This report provides information on the export certificates required by the Government of Croatia. This is an annual report that was updated in November 2023.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| Disclaimer | 2 |
| Executive Summary | 3 |
| Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required by Government (Matrix) | 3 |
| Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)..... | 4 |
| Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s) | 5 |
| Section IV. Government Certificate’s Legal Entry Requirements..... | 6 |
| Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements to Ensure Market Entry | 6 |
| Appendix I. Direct Hyperlink, Electronic Copy, Scanned Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate..... | 8 |
| Appendix II. Instructions for Exporters of FDA Regulated Products Certified by Other Agencies..... | 8 |

Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service in Zagreb, Croatia, 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. **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

All sections of the previous FAIRS Export Certificate Report have been updated to reflect EU certification requirements at the time this report was written. For the most recent update, also check the referenced website of the agencies issuing the certificates.

Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required by Government (Matrix)

Croatia as a member of the European Union follows EU directives and regulations. It is therefore recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Export Certificate Report produced by the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium:

[EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#)

or search:

[GAIN Reports](#)

The document requirements for exporting animals, plants, and food to the EU are extensive. The [EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) gives an overview of the required EU health certificates for products imported into or transiting through the EU. It should be noted, however, that model certificates may not be available for products that have never been exported to the EU before or if the relevant U.S. authority is not in a position to provide the guarantees as required by the EU. References to the EU legislation that forms the basis for the health certificate are also provided in the [EU-27 FAIRS Report](#).

While certification requirements are developed at the EU level, the member state (MS) inspection services are responsible for the enforcement of EU legislation through inspection of imported goods and the corresponding certificates.

In general, health certificates are required for all imported products of animal origin and phytosanitary certificates are needed for all plant products that could introduce pests into the EU.

| Product(s) | Title of Certificate | Attestation Required on Certificate | Purpose | Requesting Ministry |
|---------------------------|--|---|-------------|--|
| Products of animal origin | Health Certificates For details see the EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report | Attestation is dependent on the product. Detailed attestation can be found in the model certificates available at EUR-Lex , for details see EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report . | Food Safety | Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Veterinary and Sanitary Inspections. |

| Product(s) | Title of Certificate | Attestation Required on Certificate | Purpose | Requesting Ministry |
|---|--|---|-------------------------|---|
| Composite products | Health Certificate | Regulation (EU) 2019/625 defines composite products. | Food Safety | Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Veterinary and Sanitary Inspections. |
| Plant products that can introduce pests | Phytosanitary Certificate | APHIS inspectors, attest to specific requirements of EU legislation by making additional declarations in the relevant phytosanitary certificate boxes. These declarations are specific for different plant species, and they are subject to change, thus the shipper needs to check for the most recent change before export. | Plant Health | Ministry of Agriculture through State Inspectorate's Phytosanitary Inspection. |
| Various plant products | Other than Phytosanitary Certificate. For details see the EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report | e.g. aflatoxin levels in almonds: Use of the Pre-Export Checklist Program Certificate (the PEC Certificate) is not mandatory but the EU regulation mandates that consignments with this certificate are controlled for aflatoxin levels at less than 1%. USDA/AMS is the competent authority for the PEC program. | Food Safety and Quality | Ministries of Agriculture and Health through State Inspectorate's Phytosanitary and Sanitary Inspections. |

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

Import requirements for animals and animal products are harmonized across the EU. The EU must recognize a country as eligible to export a particular animal or animal product from approved establishment. The EU has lists of approved establishments based on submissions from U.S. government agencies. Only those products processed at approved establishments may enter the EU. The U.S. agencies involved in developing official establishment lists are the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Approved establishments may be subject to EU inspection. All EU-approved establishment lists are available at [Third Country Establishments](#) and the links for the U.S. agencies can be found in Section V. under competent authorities. The EU imposes several general requirements for all veterinary certificates. The U.S. regulatory agencies which issue health certificates (FSIS, APHIS, and Agricultural Market Service - AMS) have all included pertinent requirements in their export libraries. Certificates must be issued before the consignments to which they relate are released for commerce. For details see the [EU-27 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#).

The EU import requirements for plants and plant products also have been harmonized and are published in a single directive. Unlike veterinary products, there is only one model certificate for all plant products per international regulations following the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (see: [IPPC](#) and [export certification guide](#)).

Phytosanitary certificates are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to specific requirements of EU legislation by making additional declarations in the relevant boxes.

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

Exporters should be aware that in parallel with the aforementioned changes to the composite product certificate that was triggered by an update of the EU’s Animal Health Law, the EU also made changes to the categories of composite products that require U.S. Government-issued health certificates. The new system is no longer based on the percentage of ingredients of animal product in the final product, as was the case until April 21, 2021. The current system that went into effect on April 21, 2021 establishes three categories of composite products: (1) non-shelf stable composite products, (2) shelf stable composite products that contain meat products and (3) shelf stable composite products that do not contain meat products. All processed products of animal origin must be sourced from EU-approved establishments. The EU continues to require composite product certificates for all non-shelf stable products and for shelf stable composite products with a meat ingredient

For shelf stable products not containing meat, no certificates signed by the U.S. Government are required. For these products, the representative of the importer must declare that the goods meet the relevant EU requirements, using the “Private Attestation” model form [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2235](#). Specifically, the EU importer has to provide the list of ingredients and the establishment approval numbers for the animal origin ingredients in the product.

More information on the import conditions for composite products is available on the European Commission’s [website](#). This website also includes a compilation of [Questions & Answers](#) intended to clarify a multitude of practical questions that have been raised on the new rules.

Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

Whenever the EU publishes model veterinary certificates for use by eligible third country suppliers, U.S. regulatory agencies will cross-out or delete any statement that refers to health situations that are not relevant to the United States. Certificates for plants and plant products are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to the specific requirements of EU legislation with the necessary declarations in the space provided on the phytosanitary certificate.

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

The original version of the certificate must accompany consignments at the point of entry into the EU. Each shipment should be accompanied by an original certificate; that is, certificates cannot apply to multiple shipments. Certificates must normally be drawn up in the language of the country of dispatch (English for the United States) and the Member State (MS) in which the border inspection takes place and the final destination. Member States may agree to accept certificates in another official EU language other than their own.

For the Croatian market and border crossings, certificates must be in the official language of the Republic of Croatia, which is Croatian, as well as the MS where the border inspection occurs, if the product is not exported directly to the Republic of Croatia.

All certificates can be found in Croatian on the EU Official Journal website ([EUR-Lex](#)) under the relevant regulation.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements to Ensure Market Entry

There are no additional Croatian certificates (other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals.

U.S. Competent Authorities

The U.S. issuing agencies are identified by their acronyms. Following is a list of these agencies and a link to the relevant pages on their websites.

AMS: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

- AMS Dairy Program-EU Dairy and Composite Product Certification Programs
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/dairy-exports/eu-dairy-exports>
- Certification for Eggs and Egg Products
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/eggs-egg-products>
- Certification for Honey
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/honey>
- Certification for Seeds for Sprouting
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-announces-seed-sprouting-export-certification-program>

APHIS: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA

- International Animal Export Regulations
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/>
- International Animal Products Export Regulations
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/>
- Plant Export Services

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/SA_Export

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

- <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-imports-exports/exporting-food-products-united-states>

FSIS: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA Export Requirements for the European Union:

- <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/import-export-library/european-union>

Exporters of FDA regulated products that are certified by other agencies should refer to Appendix II for specific guidance on how to meet EU product certification and establishment listing requirements.

NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/content/export-certification>

Croatian Competent Authorities

Croatian State Inspectorate (all inspection services, e.g. veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary)

Šubićeva 29,

10 000 Zagreb

Croatia

Tel: +385 1 23 75 100

e-mail: pisarnica.dirh@dirh.hr

<https://inspektorat.gov.hr/>

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Agriculture

Grada Vukovara 78

10000 Zagreb

Tel. +385 1 6106 111

Fax. +385 1 6109 201

Email: pisarnica01-MP@mps.hr

<https://poljoprivreda.gov.hr/>

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Agriculture

Planinska ulica 2a,

10000 Zagreb

Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate

Tel. +385 1 6443 828

Fax. +385 1 6443 200

Email: uprava.veterinarstva@mps.hr

Government of the Republic of Croatia, Ministry of Health

Ksaver 200a

10 000 Zagreb

Tel. +385 1 4607 555

Fax. +385 1 4677 076

<https://zdravstvo.gov.hr/>

Croatian EFSA Focal Point

Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food

I. Gundulića 36b,

31000 Osijek

Croatia

Tel: +385 31 227 600

Fax: +385 31 214 901

e-mail: cs@hapih.hr

<https://www.hapih.hr/about-us/>

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

There are no additional Croatian certificates (Other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals for the time being.

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

Composite Products to the EU

The EU defines a composite product as a food product containing both processed products of animal origin (dairy, egg, fishery products, or meat products) and products of plant origin. [USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service \(FSIS\) will issue EU composite product certificates](#) for composite products produced at FSIS-regulated facilities and bearing the USDA mark of inspection. AMS Dairy Program will issue the EU composite product certificates for composite products NOT produced in an FSIS-regulated facility and not bearing the USDA mark of inspection, regardless of whether dairy is an ingredient in the composite product.

The new EU requirements for composite products will impact stakeholders who have not been required to obtain an export certificate from AMS Dairy Program in the past. 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 How to Apply for an AMS Dairy or Composite Product Export Certificate for more information.](#)

Dairy to the EU

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is the certifying agency for EU export certificates for dairy products regulated by FDA. For more information, contact William Francis (william.francis@usda.gov) or John Kelly (John.Kelly2@usda.gov). In order to obtain an EU Health Certificate, the manufacturers must have their final production, blending, and/or packing facility listed on the [List of EU approved facilities maintained on the European Commission website](#). Exporters

should check whether they have been included in this list. Exporters may apply for inclusion on these lists through the FDA Export Listing Module (ELM). Please visit [Online Applications for Export Lists](#) for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions.

Dairy to Other Export Markets

A sanitary certificate is accepted by numerous countries, the Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Grading Branch offers these certificates and this certificate can be [obtained through this website](#).

Eggs and Egg Products

In the egg sector, USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) is the certifying agency for export certificates for egg products regulated by FDA. The AMS Livestock, Poultry and Seed Division is responsible for the EU export certificates for the 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, egg substitutes, noodles, cake mixes, freeze-dried products, 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 [FDA/USDA jurisdictional chart](#) (Exhibit 3-1). 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 Export Listing Module (ELM). Please visit Online Applications for Export Lists for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions. [List of EU approved facilities maintained on the European Commission website](#).

Seafood

The EU export health certificate is required by the EU Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection and attests to the safety of fish and fishery -- both wild and aquaculture -- products shipped to the EU. 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 [Export Listing Module \(ELM\)](#). Please visit Online Applications for Export Lists for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions. Please note that the EU will only accept export certificates signed after an establishment has been added to the list published on the [EC website](#) and the list has entered into force. Once listed, U.S. establishments may contact National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Seafood Inspection Program to request export certificates for U.S. seafood exports to the EU Prior to exporting, industry should consult the EC's EU List of Approved Establishments External Link Disclaimer to verify that the establishment from which they intend to export is listed. These certificates must be requested and issued prior to shipment of the product. [Follow this link to submit a request online](#).

Honey to the EU

The European Union (EU) has listed the United States as a country eligible to export honey to the European Union provided honey producers meet their program requirements. Under the program, domestic U.S. companies must adhere to specific requirements for each shipment destined to an EU member country. The [USDA Agricultural Marketing Service outlines specific requirements for U.S. honey shipped to EU markets](#) related to Hazardous Analysis and Critical Control Point (HAACP) planning, recordkeeping, testing, sampling, as well as labeling requirements in accordance with

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 and that the product(s) have been handled and where appropriate, prepared, packaged, and stored in a hygienic manner in accordance with the requirements of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 ([these regulations can be downloaded from the following link](#)).

Seeds for Sprouting to the EU

USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) is the certifying agency for seeds for sprouting regulated by FDA. See: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-announces-seed-sprouting-export-certification-program>

Attachments:

No Attachments