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## **Jordan**

### **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification**

### **FAIRS Export Certificate Report - 2017 Annual**

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**Report Highlights:**

This report lists and describes certificates that should accompany U.S. food and agricultural product exports to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. In general, an original invoice, bill of lading, health certificate, and a certificate of origin are required on every shipment. An export certificate matrix is included in this report. The requirements listed here are for consignments coming directly to Jordan from the United States; or for those shipments being trans-shipped in a sealed container with invoices stating that Jordan is the final destination.

## SECTION I: EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY JORDAN

### Jordan, Export Certificate Matrix

PRODUCT(S)	TITLE OF CERTIFICATION	ATTESTATION REQUIRED	PURPOSE	REQUESTING MINISTRY
ALL PRODUCTS	Export Certificate (FDA Certificate of Free Sale or Sanitary/Health Certificate [1] )		Heath/Free Sale Certificate	MOA, JFDA
	Certificate of Origin (Generally issued by state authorities)		Origin of Product	MOA, JDFA, Jordan Customs Authority
GRAINS AND OILSEEDS	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS)		Health Certificate	MOA
	Grain Inspection Certificate (FGIS)		Cargo matches terms of reference	
	Stowage Examination Certificate (FGIS)		Free of pests and contaminants	
MEAT, POULTRY, AND PRODUCTS [2]	Halal Slaughter Certificate		Religious Certification	MOA
	Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness (FSIS)	NOTE: Specific attestations are required. See FSIS Export Library for details.	Health Certificate	MOA
FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS	Export Health Certificate and Certificate of Origin (NOAA)		Health Certificate	MOA
DAIRY PRODUCTS [3]	Sanitary Certificate (AMS)		Health Certificate	JFDA, Jordan Customs Authority
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS)		Phytosanitary Certificate	MOA
PLANTING SEEDS [4]	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS)		Phytosanitary Certificate	MOA

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS); Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS); and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Jordanian acronyms include the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA).

<sup>[1]</sup> Export certificates are issued by a number of U.S. agencies, depending on the product. See specific agency links for details on obtaining certificates: [FDA – Processed Products](#); [AMS – Dairy Products](#); [APHIS – Phytosanitary Certificate](#); [FGIS – Grains and Oilseeds](#); [FSIS – Meat and Poultry](#); and [NOAA – Fish and Seafood Products](#).

<sup>[2]</sup> Note that any processed products containing meat or poultry must meet the same requirements listed under Meat, Poultry, and Products.

<sup>[3]</sup> Exporters of dairy products should note that their facilities must be registered with JFDA prior to export.

<sup>[4]</sup> Product registration is required by the MOA prior to export of seeds for planting.

Credentials for the slaughter houses exporting to Jordan for the first time include:

1. Slaughter house license certificate from the U.S. federal authority/ or those of a local agency that can be verified by the U.S. Embassy in Jordan
2. Registration code
3. Quality assurance certificate ISO 22000 or HACCP
4. Halal slaughter observance certificate; issued by an approved and licensed Islamic center/committee in the specific U.S. state

## SECTION II: PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE

The [Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization](#) (JSMO) is responsible for the development of standards and ensuring conformity with existing product standards. General food issues are delegated to the [Jordan Food and Drug Administration](#) (JFDA), while the [Jordan Ministry of Agriculture](#) (MOA) regulates unprocessed agricultural products. The [Jordan Customs Authority](#) reviews import documentation and may request additional documentation or challenge the authenticity of potentially fraudulent documents prior to customs clearance.

Exporters of U.S. food and agricultural products are encouraged to work closely with their Jordanian importers in meeting documentation requirements. The general purpose of required export certificates can be found in the Jordan, Export Certificate Matrix (see, Section I).

## SECTION III: SPECIFIC ATTESTATION REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATES

**Meat, Poultry, and Products:** Exporters of animal products are urged to work closely with their Jordanian importers, as well as check the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) [Food Safety Inspection Service \(FSIS\) Export Library](#) frequently for the latest updates – the requirements listed here are subject to change and are strictly scrutinized by the Jordan Customs Authority. In general, products from all federally inspected establishments are eligible to export to Jordan; if accompanied by a certificate of wholesomeness (FSIS 9060-5) and a halal certification. In the case of fresh or frozen poultry, the certificate of wholesomeness must note that:

- The poultry originates from a state which is free of the [World Organization for Animal Health](#) (OIE) List A poultry diseases
- The poultry and poultry products were produced in accordance to the FSIS National Residue Program

Jordanian Islamic slaughter practices require that:

- All meat and products of animal origin be accompanied by a halal certificate, with the exception of pork and pork products
- The halal certificate should be issued and signed by the approved and licensed Islamic center; each consignment should be accompanied by a halal certificate that includes the date of slaughter
- The halal logo should be on the original label from the producing establishment

## SECTION IV: GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Article 31 of the Customs Law of 1998 and its amendments stipulate that every customs declaration form must include the following:

- A maritime or airway bill of lading
- A commercial invoice indicating the value, weight, and freight and insurance charges. All invoices require Jordanian diplomatic/consular approval. In the absence of Jordanian diplomatic/consular approval, Jordan's Customs Director is empowered to accept the country of export's chamber of commerce certification
- Commercial invoices are required to describe the product in Arabic
- A notarized certificate of origin issued by the competent authority in the export country
- A value declaration form for shipments exceeding Jordan dinar (JOD) 2,000 equivalent to \$2,800 (currently JOD 1.00 = \$1.40)

**Import Licenses:** A pre-approved import license is required for raw food products. Products requiring this sort of import license include fruits, vegetables, beef, poultry, fish, and eggs. Similarly, powdered milk used in industrial applications and any food product making special dietary claims (i.e., infant formula, nutritional supplements, etc.) must obtain an import license. The Jordanian importer is responsible for obtaining the license from the appropriate ministry, in most cases the Ministry of Agriculture.

Import licenses normally have a validity of three months, unless otherwise stated. For trans-shipments, the import license is valid for two months. Import licenses for chilled meat are normally valid for only one month.

Jordan does not require the original import license at the time of product entry. It will accept a photocopy or fax copy for perishable items (e.g., beef and fruit consignments). The Jordan Customs Authority will release shipments under bond until original documents are submitted. Importers can ship multiple consignments to Jordan using the same import license until the license's expiration date or the quantity is filled.

**Registration Requirements:** A few specific products require registration prior to import to Jordan. Seeds for planting and products making special dietary claims require prior registration. U.S. exporters are encouraged to work closely with their Jordanian importers in fulfilling these requirements.

U.S. exporters of dairy products are required to register their facilities with the JFDA prior to shipment. This registration is a simple verification of the exporting firm's HACCP certification. It requires that the Jordanian importer provide a copy of the exporter's HACCP certificate with a completed application to the Jordan Food and Drug Administration.

U.S. slaughterhouses starting in 2017 are required to register prior to initiating exports to Jordan. This requirement does not require the inspection of plants that are under U.S. federal inspection. The registration is only required once per facility, though it is yet unclear for how long the registration will be valid. Exporters are encouraged to contact the Ministry of Agriculture and or FAS Amman prior to shipment (see, FAIRS Jordan Country Report 2017).

**Banned Products:** Exporters should be aware that Jordan will occasionally ban the import of specific products due to sanitary or phytosanitary concerns. Importers and exporters alike should verify the most recent list of prohibited products prior to shipment.

As of January 2017, dairy products are no longer allowed to contain partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs). This new ban will apply to all processed dairy products, including processed cheese products or similar dairy products that replace milk fat with any other fat. Exporters are encouraged to clearly mark the oil used on any products that could potentially contain partially hydrogenated oils. New to market dairy products should expect an increased level of scrutiny by customs officials.

The color tartrazine E102 is no longer permitted as a coloring in pickled preparations. This regulation is in line with the European Union (EU) and *Codex alimentarius* (Codex) standards, Category 4.2.2 and 4.2.2.3 respectively.

**Labeling Requirements:** The Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization is responsible for establishing labeling requirements. The requirements are fairly standard. A statement of ingredients in order of preponderance is not required. All labels must be in the Arabic language, or have an Arabic stick-on label. In general, the label should contain the name of the product, the manufacturer's name and address, net weight, fortifying matter (i.e., vitamins and minerals to powder milk), lot number, and "use before" or "best before" date. Local labeling requirements do not include Recommended Daily Intake (RDIs). Nutritional labeling is mandatory in certain categories of food including infant formula and food for dietary use.

Jordanian officials will scrutinize product labels at border crossing points. Importers are held accountable for the product's content as specified on the label. Jordan has been known to reject shipments due to labeling errors or omissions.

**Contamination and Testing:** Any imported agricultural commodity or food may be inspected and tested to ensure that it is fit for human consumption. Virtually all prepared and mixed foods are retested at the border. Products failing to meet standards or found unfit for human consumption are removed from distribution and destroyed.

U.S. exporters of raw animal products should note that amended standards for *salmonella* in meat and poultry have been implemented. If pathogenic strains of *salmonella* are found, the product will be rejected or destroyed. Additionally, new standards for contaminants in fish have been implemented. The standards outline the maximum limits of infestation and foreign materials present in fish. U.S. exporters are urged to closely review the new standards prior to shipment.

## SECTION V: OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

PRODUCT(S)		
ALL PRODUCTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial Invoice</li> </ul>	Must include value, weight, freight, and insurance charges. Must be notarized by the Jordanian diplomatic/consular mission in the country of origin.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill of Lading</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value Declaration</li> </ul>	For all shipments exceeding JD 2,000 (~\$2,800)
VEGETABLE OIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certificate of Holds Inspection</li> </ul>	Indicates that the vessel is clean and prepared to haul edible oils
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Declaration of Tank Metal</li> </ul>	Indicates the type of metal used to line the tank
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Declaration of Tank Coating</li> </ul>	Indicates the type of paint or lining used
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cargo List</li> </ul>	List of materials carried by the vessel in its previous three trips
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import License</li> </ul>	An advance import license is required by the MOA prior to shipment.
MEAT, POULTRY, AND PRODUCTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import License</li> </ul>	An advance import license is required by the MOA prior to shipment
FISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import License</li> </ul>	An advance import license is required by the MOA prior to shipment
DAIRY PRODUCTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration</li> </ul>	First time importers of dairy products must first register exporting firms with the JFDA
POWDERED MILK (FOR INDUSTRIAL USE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import License</li> </ul>	An advance import license is required by the MOA prior to shipment
PRODUCTS MAKING SPECIAL CLAIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration</li> </ul>	Must be registered with the JFDA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import License</li> </ul>	An advance import license is required by the MOA prior to shipment
PLANTING SEEDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration</li> </ul>	Must be registered with the JFDA

Jordanian acronyms include the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA).

**CITS:** The Jordan Customs Authority developed and launched the [Customs Integrated Tariff System \(CITS\)](#) in August 2005 to assist importers. Importers can use this system to monitor commodity tariffs, import requirements, and commodity trade agreements. The CITS system enables importers to review all regulations and requirements of the commodity or product being traded. All CITS system information is available in Arabic and English languages.

## **APPENDIX I: GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS**

### **U.S. Certificate Issuers**

USDA – Agricultural Marketing Service: [Dairy Sanitary Certificate](#)  
USDA – Food Safety Inspection Service: [Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness](#)  
USDA – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: [Phytosanitary Certificate](#)  
USDA – Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration: [Export Information](#) (Grain inspection, stowage, and analysis certification)  
FDA – [Food Export Certificate](#) (Certificate of Free Sale)  
NOAA – [Fish and Seafood Products](#)

### **Jordanian Authorities**

**Ministry of Agriculture – Veterinary Services Directorate and Plant Protection Directorate**  
Tel: (962-6) 568-6151 • Fax: (962-6) 568-6310 • Web-site: [www.moa.gov.jo](http://www.moa.gov.jo)

**Ministry of Environment**  
Tel: (962-6) 556-0113 • Fax: (962-6) 556-0288 • Web-site: [www.moenv.gov.jo](http://www.moenv.gov.jo)

**Ministry of Industry and Trade**  
Tel: (962-6) 560-7191/566-3774 • Fax: (962-6) 560-4691 • Web-site: [www.mit.gov.jo](http://www.mit.gov.jo)

**Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization**  
Tel: (962-6) 568-0139 • Fax: (962-6) 568-1099 • Web-site: [www.jsmo.gov.jo](http://www.jsmo.gov.jo)

**Jordan Food and Drug Administration**  
Tel: (962-6) 461-2663 • Fax: (962-6) 461-2663 • Web-site: [www.jfda.jo](http://www.jfda.jo)

**Jordan Customs Authority**  
P.O. Box 90, Amman, Jordan  
Tel: (962-6) 462-3186/8; 462-4394/6 • Fax: (962-6) 464-7791  
E-mail: [Customs@Customs.gov.jo](mailto:Customs@Customs.gov.jo) • Web-site: [www.customs.gov.jo](http://www.customs.gov.jo)

**Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority**  
P.O. Box 2565, Aqaba 77110, Jordan  
Tel: (962-6) 3 203 5757/8 • Fax: (962-6) 3 203-0912 • Web-site: [www.aqabazone.com](http://www.aqabazone.com)

## **APPENDIX II: OTHER CONTACTS**

**USDA\FAS - Office of Agricultural Affairs**  
U.S. Embassy Amman • P.O. Box 354, Amman, Jordan  
Tel: (962-6) 590-6056 • Fax: (962-6) 592-0146 • E-mail: [Mohamed.khraishy@usda.gov](mailto:Mohamed.khraishy@usda.gov)