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Bangladesh

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report

FAIRS Export Certificate Report 2018

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Report Highlights:

This report contains major export certificates that the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) requires from U.S. agricultural product exporters. The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority is the national authority responsible for ensuring food safety and food regulations in the country. Bangladesh is a signatory member of the WTO and maintains a liberal and open trading system. Import Policy Order 2015-18 ([Link](#)) remains in effect for trading with Bangladesh.

SECTION I. LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT (MATRIX):

Products	Title of Certificates	Attestation required on certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
All agricultural, processed food products (plant and plant product, chick, poultry, fish and fish product, milk and milk product, meat, meat product, egg, fish feed, poultry feed, feed industry raw materials derived from livestock and fisheries product)	Certificates of “Country of Origin”	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificate stating products are manufactured in the USA. Attested by the competent authority or association related to the product.	To authenticate the country of origin of the products being imported to Bangladesh	Customs House Chittagong, National Board of Revenue.
	Radiation level test certificate No specific title. Example: Certificate of Analysis	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificate of radioactivity-test must indicate the level of CS-137 found in each kilogram of goods shipped. The competent authority of the exporting country. Usually any competent laboratory.	To authenticate that the food has permissible level of radiation to be consumed by human.	Bangladesh Atomic Energy commission, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Commerce.
	Health certificate	Requires a specific declaration (attestation) but there is no specific negotiated format of the certificate.	Food safety, quality, and public health and animal health and veterinary oversight	Customs House Chittagong, National Board of Revenue.

		<p>Certificate stating <i>“Fit for human consumption”</i></p> <p><i>“Fit for consumption by fish, poultry or animal”.</i></p> <p>Provided by the competent laboratory of exporting country.</p>		
Poultry feed and animal feed ingredients (Animal product)	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificates indicating feed goods are free from Chloromphenicol, Nitrofurran, Antibiotics, Melamine and Genetically Modified Organism.</p>	Animal health and veterinary oversight	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Fish meal and protein	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate indicting that the imported goods are free from harmful chromium, by-products of tanneries and melamine.</p> <p>The competent authority of the exporting country.</p>	Animal health and public health	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Poultry feed and animal feed	Phytosanitary Certificate	There is no negotiated declaration	Plant health and animal	Plant Quarantine

ingredients (Plant product)	PPQ Form 577 of APHIS	(attestation) requirements as per the Import Policy Order 2015-18. But importers submit the phytosanitary certificate following the conditions written in import permit.	health	Wing, Ministry of Agriculture.
Chicks (One day old chicks)	Veterinary Health Certificate Title: Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export VS FORM 17-6 of APHIS	Generic declaration (attestation) and format of the APHIS certificate. A certificate confirms that the importable chicks are free from contagious disease. The authorized officer of the Livestock Department of the exporting country.	Animal health	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Chicks (One day old chicks)	Health Certificate	There is no specific declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. A certificate to the effect that the exporting country is free from Avian influenza. Provided by the competent laboratory of exporting country.	Animal health	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Poultry and birds	Health Certificate See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.	Animal health and Food safety	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and

		<p>A certificate to the effect that poultry and birds are free from Avian Influenza.</p> <p>Issued by the appropriate authority of the exporting countries.</p>		Fisheries.
Eggs of poultry and birds	<p>Health Certificate</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate to the effect that the goods are free from Avian Influenza or Bird Flu virus & harmful bacteria.</p> <p>The livestock department or competent authority of the exporting country.</p>	Animal health	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Deep frozen semen of oxen	<p>Health Certificate</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate regarding the variety of semen to the effect that it is free from any contagious and venereal diseases and the exporting country is also free from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).</p> <p>Competent authority</p>	Animal health	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

		of the exporting country.		
Milk, milk food and milk product	No specific title. See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificate stating that the product is free from added melamine. Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.	Food safety	Bangladesh Food Safety Authority, Ministry of Food.
Milk, milk food and milk product	No specific title See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificates stating that the cows from which the milk originates have not been given Estrogenic Hormones and Hormone growth promotants (HGP) treatment. Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.	Food safety	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Milk, milk food and milk product	No specific title See Note - 1	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate. Certificates to the effect the existence of	Food safety	Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Ministry of Industries.

		<p>the level of heavy metal which are in accordance with Codex Standards.</p> <p>Competent authority recognized by the government of the exporting country.</p>		
Fish	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate to the effect that the fish is free from Formalin.</p> <p>Issued by the Government or any authority recognized by the Government of the exporting country.</p>	Public health and food safety	Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Beef, goat meat, or chicken or other consumable meat of animal	<p>No specific title</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>A certificate to the effect that the imported goods are free from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and Avian Influenza.</p> <p>Competent authority of the exporting country.</p>	Food safety	Department of Livestock Services, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
Vegetable seed and grain used as food directly	Certificates of "Country of Origin"	There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format	To authenticate the country	Customs House Chittagong,

		<p>of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate stating products are manufactured in the USA.</p> <p>Attested by the competent authority or association related to the product.</p>	of origin of the products being imported to Bangladesh	National Board of Revenue.
Vegetable seed and grain used as food directly	<p>No specific title. Example: Certificate of Analysis</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Certificate of radioactivity-test must indicate the level of CS-137 found in each kilogram of goods shipped.</p> <p>The competent authority of the exporting country. Usually any competent laboratory.</p>	To authenticate that the plant food has permissible level of radiation to be consumed by human.	Bangladesh Atomic Energy commission, Ministry of Science and Technology
Potato seed	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	<p>Phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country.</p> <p>The government agency.</p>	Plant health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Rice Seed	Phytosanitary Certificate (APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	<p>Phytosanitary certificate from the exporting country.</p> <p>The government agency.</p>	Plant health	Plant Quarantine Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Hybrid rice seeds	Phytosanitary Certificate	Phytosanitary certificate that the	Plant health	Plant Quarantine

	(APHIS - PPQ Form 577)	<p>seed is purified with hot water treatment and with approved pesticides.</p> <p>The government agency of exporting country.</p>		Wing, Ministry of Agriculture
Refined edible oil	<p>Certificate of Analysis</p> <p>See Note - 1</p>	<p>There is no specific negotiated declaration (attestation) or format of the certificate.</p> <p>Optional certificates from exporting that confirms the quality standard of the exporting country.</p> <p>Required certificate from Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Bangladesh to confirm that the quality meets the standards level of Bangladesh.</p> <p>The government agency of exporting country and importing country.</p>	Food safety and public health	Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute, Ministry of Industries

Source: [Import Policy Order 2015-18](#), Ministry of Commerce.

Note-1: There is no specific title, negotiated declaration (attestation), and format of certificate between the government agency of Bangladesh and USA, therefore it is recommended that exporter should collect confirmed information from importer about required certificate type and attestation on certificate.

SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

Please refer to the Matrix under Section I.

SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATE(S)

Please refer to the Matrix under Section I.

SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE'S LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Original copies of necessary import documents and certificates do not need be accompanied with the product at the time of entry to the port. The exporter sends all the original documents and certificates before the time of entry to the port. The exporter sends those documents through exporting and importing country bank who also deal with importer's Letter of Credit. The customs and clearing agent submits these documents to the customs house for clearing customs and port.

The certificates are valid only for the individual consignment and cannot be applied for multiple shipment. The certificates are valid for an approved period written in the import permit issued by the respective government office for importing agricultural plant and plant products. For example: import permit of agricultural plant and plant product is valid for four months from issuing date of the import permit.

The compliance issue is absent in import regulations of agricultural and food commodities. Bangladesh doesn't need export certificate for importing agriculture commodities.

SECTION V. OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

This section is derived from [Import Policy Order 2015-18](#)

1. Acceptable limits of radiation level for milk powder, milk food and milk products is 95 Becquerel (Bq) per kilogram of radioactive element Cesium (Cs)-137, and for other food goods are 50 Bq of Cs-137 per kilogram. The level of Cs-137 in an item shall be calculated in the state it reaches the port without being liquefied, concentrated or processed. In case of local goods, the level of Cs-137 in an item shall be calculated in the state it is marketed. The highest acceptable limit of radioactivity levels may be revised by the government from time to time.
2. The following procedure shall be applicable in the matters of radiation test of food goods to be imported from any country, as:-
 - (a) Prior to shipment of the aforesaid item(s) the inspection agent of the supplier or buyer/consignee shall make necessary arrangement for the test of radiation levels for such goods;
 - (b) Prior to the arrival of a ship carrying such goods at a Bangladeshi port, the buyer or consignee or his inspection agent shall make necessary arrangement for sending by courier the certificate regarding radiation level test to the concerned Customs Authority;

(c) No goods, the radioactivity level of which is above the acceptable limit shall be shipped;

(d) In case of import of food goods, which were, produced neither in any European country nor packed/ tinned in or shipped from the third country submission of the aforesaid certificate about radiation level test to the Customs Authority by courier service shall not be required: Provided that, a report on radiation level test of importable food goods mentioning the level of Cs-137 found per kilogram of the importable item concerned is to be submitted; and

(e) A general certificate to the effect that the goods are fit for human consumption must be enclosed with the Bill of Lading (B. L.).

3. In case of direct import of rice, wheat, other cereals and food stuff from South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), South-East Asia and Asia-Pacific Ocean countries, the provision of the above mentioned radiation level test shall be relaxed on fulfillment of the conditions stated in import policy order 2015-18.

4. Milk food: All kinds of milk food products including baby food with fat contents covered under H. S. Heading 04. 02 or 19. 01 and all H. S. Code classifiable there under shall be importable subject to the following conditions, namely:-

(a) Baby food produced from milk shall be imported in tin containers, airtight packages or Bag in Box up to 2.5 kg;

(b) Milk food with cream shall be imported in the loose covered tin containers or bag in box up to 2.5 kg;

(c) The Industrial enterprises, which are approved by the packing or canning Sector of Board of Investment, Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation or Director, Institute of Public Health & Nutrition , shall import milk food with cream or baby food in big airtight Hermetic Container for packing locally (retail) ;

(d) The words: “There is no alternative to breast-feeding” shall be printed clearly in relatively larger letters in Bangla in a visible space on each tin, airtight package or bag in box of baby food with cream;

(e) Composition and percentages of various ingredients shall be printed in Bangla on the tin containers, airtight packages or bag and boxes of milk food;

(I) The date of manufacture and the date of expiry (for human consumption) of milk food shall be embossed or computer printed in permanent ink either in Bangla or in English on each airtight package with tin container, or bag in box;

(g) The net weight of milk food shall be clearly indicated on each container in Bangla or in English; apart from this, in case of import of milk and milk product baby food, the registration number given by the Director, Institute of Public Health & Nutrition (IPIIN) shall be printed on each tin/ airtight package with tin container/ bag in box clearly;

(h) The condition mentioned at clauses (d), (e), (I) and (g) above must be embossed on each airtight package with tin container or bag in box and separate printed labels shall, in no way, be pasted on airtight package with tin container or bag in box;

(i) Measuring spoon shall be supplied airtight package with tin container or bag in box of baby food
i. e. milk food having fat contents up to 19%.

5. In case of all foodstuff / edible substances importable to Bangladesh, the importers shall send information of the edible substances in a prescribed form of Bangladesh Standard & Testing Institution (BSTI) to the BSTI office and information of other food stuff to the Bangladesh Centre for Science and Industrial Research (BCSIR).
6. All foodstuff/edible substances imported into Bangladesh must undergo mandatory tests of BSTI and BCSIR. On arrival of the consignment in Bangladesh the importers shall submit samples of the goods to the BSTI/BCSIR for testing and obtain clearance certificate from them. If food staff/edible substance does not conform to their standard, the consignment shall not be eligible for release and the importer shall be subject to legal action.
7. In case of import of food goods for human consumption as GMO (Genetically Modified Organism), LMO (Living Modified Organism) Bangladesh Bio-safety Guidelines should be followed.
8. Fish Meal and Protein Concentrate can be imported with the prior permission from the Department of Fisheries (DOF) & Department of Livestock Services (DLS) and in case of such imports source and the name of animal must be mentioned.
9. There is no need for further testing of radioactivity level of fish feed, animal and poultry feed goods after their arrival at the Bangladesh port.
10. It is to be examined by the Government recognized agency at the port of entry in Bangladesh that no Formalin is used in the imported fish and it shall be released subject to certification that there is no Formalin in it.
11. In case of import of beef, mutton or chicken or other consumable meat of animal, the date of manufacture and date of expiry have to be embossed/printed on the container by the exporting country and preservation process is to be mentioned on it. Separately printed label shall not be pasted on the container.