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**Report Name:** Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards  
Export Certificate Report

**Country:** Jamaica

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**Report Highlights:**

This report outlines the major export certificates required by the Government of Jamaica for imports of food and agricultural products.

This report was prepared by the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service’s Office of Agriculture Affairs in Kingston, Jamaica for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate because policies may have changed since its preparation, or 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 PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Government of Jamaica requires various documents for the legal importation of food and agricultural products into Jamaica. Products from the United States must be accompanied by export certificates from the relevant agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture.

### **Section I: LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

All products require an export certificate issued by agencies of the U.S. government, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

<b>Product (s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
All Foods	Certificate of Free Sale	The products exported are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements.	Food Safety	Ministry of Health – The Standards and Regulation Division

Product (s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
<p>Meats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beef</li> <li>• Mutton</li> <li>• Lamb</li> <li>• Goat</li> </ul>	<p>Meat Inspection Certificate (FSIS Form 9060-5 Certificate of Wholesomeness)</p> <p>Letterhead Certificate (FSIS Form 2630-9) for Beef and Beef Products.</p>	<p>The meat or meat food product have been inspected by a certified veterinarian, both ante-mortem and post-mortem, and is wholesome and fit for human consumption. Remarks on the FSIS Form 9060-5: “The United States is free from foot and mouth disease.”</p> <p>For Beef (BSE-related) only, the product is free from specified risk materials of animals aged 30 months of age or older.</p>	<p>Food Safety and Animal Health Protection</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division</p>
<p>Poultry and Poultry Products</p>	<p>Poultry Inspection Certificate (FSIS 9060-5 Certificate of Wholesomeness).</p>	<p>The poultry product has been inspected by a certified veterinarian, both ante-mortem and post-mortem, and is wholesome and fit for human consumption. Remarks on the FSIS Form 9060-5: “Product originated from farms that were not under quarantine and are located 10 miles away from any affected farms or flocks.”</p>	<p>Food Safety and Animal Health Protection</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries– Veterinary Services Division</p>

<b>Product (s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
Dairy Products	Health/Sanitary Certificate (AMS)	Products are fit for human consumption	Food Safety and Animal Health Protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness– The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries– Veterinary Services Division
Products with Minor Dairy or Egg Components	Health/Sanitary Certificate (APHIS VS form 16-4)	Products are fit for human consumption	Food Safety and Animal Health Protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness– The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division

<b>Product (s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
Food Preparations Containing Animal Products and Less than 2% Meat Ingredients for Human Consumption	Health/Sanitary Certificate (APHIS VS form 16-4 and VS Form 16-4A)	Certification that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, classical swine fever, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.	Food Safety and Animal Health Protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries– Veterinary Services Division
Table (Shell) Eggs, processed egg products such as frozen egg patties	Grading and Health Certificates (AMS Grading Certificate – Form PY-210S and AMS Health Certificate – “disease free certification statements for other countries”)	Products are fit for human consumption	Food Safety and Animal Health Protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division

<b>Product (s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
Processed Eggs such as pasteurized liquid eggs	Certificate of Wholesome (FSIS Form 9060-5EP)  FSIS Letterhead Certificate	Products are fit for human consumption	Food Safety	Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division
Fruits, Vegetables, Plants and Plant Products	Phytosanitary Certificate	The products have been inspected and are free of harmful pests and plant diseases, and comply with Jamaica’s phytosanitary regulations.	Food Safety and Plant Protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division.  Ministry of Agriculture and fisheries– Plant Quarantine Division

<b>Product (s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
Coconut Derivatives, oil producing Seeds, Edible Oils	Import Permit from Government of Jamaica (GoJ), Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA)	The products exported are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements.	Food Safety and Animal Health	Ministry of Health and Wellness– The Standards and Regulation Division.  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries -Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA)
Fish and Crustaceans	Export Certificate (Country of origin and analysis of contaminants/heavy metals)	The fish products meet all standards specified by GoJ and must be accompanied by the origin country export health certificate.	Food Safety and fishery protection	Ministry of Health and Wellness – The Standards and Regulation Division  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries– Veterinary Services Division

Product (s)	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Sugar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refined sugar</li> <li>• Raw sugar</li> </ul>	License from GoJ Trade Board	The products exported are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements.	Food Safety	Ministry of Health – The Standards and Regulation Division.  Ministry of Industry- Jamaica Trade Board
Pet Foods	Health/Sanitary Certificate  (APHIS VS form 16-4 with additional declarations)	The United States meets the requirements of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) to be considered free from HPAI, Newcastle disease, swine vesicular disease, African and classical swine fever, and foot-and-mouth disease. Ingredients used in the preparation of the pet food were free from specified risk materials.	Animal Health	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries– Veterinary Services Division

## SECTION II: PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATE (S)

- **Certificate to a Foreign Government:** The Jamaican Ministry of Health and Wellness requires this certificate for all food products imported into Jamaica for the purpose of food safety. This FDA certificate is available for conventional foods, food additives, food contact substances, and infant formula that meet the applicable requirements of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for marketing in the United States. This certificate states, among other things, that a product (or products) may be marketed in and legally exported from the United States. The fee for this certificate is \$175 for the first certificate, \$155 for the second certificate for the same products(s) issued in response to the same request, and \$100 for each subsequent certificate for the same product(s) issued in response to the same request. To request this certificate, please visit [Here](#)
- The “**Certificate of Exportability**” is available for conventional foods, food additives, food contact substances, and infant formula products that cannot be legally marketed in the United States but that meet the requirements of section 801(e) of the FD&C Act and may be legally exported. This certificate states that a product (or products) meet(s) the requirements of section 801(e)(1) of the FD&C Act and may be legally exported. The fee for this certificate is \$175 for the first certificate, \$155 for the second certificate for the same products(s) issued in response to the same request, and \$100 for each subsequent certificate for the same product(s) issued in response to the same request. To request this certificate, please visit [Here](#)
- The “**Certificate of Free Sale**”: is available only for dietary supplements, medical foods and foods for special dietary use. FDA does not charge a fee for this certificate. To request this certificate, please visit [Here](#)
- **Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate:** The Ministry of Health and Wellness requires this certificate for food safety, food quality and food processing conditions. The Ministry of Agriculture, Veterinary Services Division also requires this certificate for animal health protection purposes.
- **Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificates (Certificate of Wholesomeness):** The Ministry of Health and Wellness, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division requires these certificates for food safety, food quality and animal health protection purposes.
- **Phytosanitary Certificate:** This certificate is required by the Ministry of Health and Wellness for the purpose of food safety and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Plant Quarantine Division for domestic plant protection purposes.
- **Fish and Crustaceans Export Certificate:** The Ministry of Health and Wellness for food safety and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – Veterinary Services Division for fishery protection.

### Section III: SPECIFIC ATTESTATION REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATE

- **Certificate to a Foreign Government:** This certificate should attest that the particular products exported to Jamaica are produced and marketed in the United States in general conformity with U.S. requirements.
- **Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate:** This certificate should declare that the facilities are operated under sanitary conditions (under supervision/monitoring of the regulatory agency) and animal/seafood/other products destined for human consumption are free from diseases and conformed to standards negotiated.
- **Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholeness):** This certificate is issued by USDA/FSIS – Form 9060-5. The export requirements for Jamaica and eligible/ineligible products are available [Here](#).
- **Export Certificate for imported dairy products for re-export to Jamaica:** This certificate should declare that the product was legally imported into the United States from “name of country” under export certificate “reference the export certificate of the country of origin”.
- **Health Certificate for Pet Foods:** To export pet foods and treats to Jamaica the following certification statements should be provided in the “Additional Declarations” section of the Export Certificate for Animal Products (VS form 16-4). A notarized affidavit from the manufacturer is also required to support these statements on the export certificate issued by APHIS Veterinary Services.

*This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [company name] verifying the accuracy of the statements below:*

- 1. The animal feed originates from a manufacturing plant approved by the regulatory authority of the exporting country.*
  - 2. Pet food products have been manufactured in accordance with a U.S. system of laws and regulations designed to produce a wholesome product. The product is freely sold in the United States as pet food.*
  - 3. Canned (hermetically sealed products) were treated to  $F_0$  of 3.0 or more to comply with low acid canned food regulations. Dry, semi-moist, and dehydrated products were sufficiently heat processed to assure destruction of pathogens of concern. Liquid products have undergone pasteurization.*
  - 4. Ingredients used in the preparation of the pet food were free from specified risk materials (For pet foods containing ruminant ingredients).*
- **Phytosanitary Certificate:** This should certify that the shipment of plant and plant products have been inspected and is free of harmful pests and plant diseases, and complies with Jamaica’s phytosanitary regulations. Furthermore, the certificate must declare from which U.S. state the plant products originate. While the Jamaican authorities have no specific declaration requirements on the Phytosanitary Certificate, the following sample attestation can be used as a

guideline: *The products have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from pests and diseases and conform to the current phytosanitary requirements of Jamaica.*

Note: The importation of soft, fleshy fruits and vegetables are prohibited from all areas where fruit flies (i.e. Mexican and Mediterranean) are known to occur unless approved treatments can be effectively performed. Furthermore, the importation of plants and rooted cuttings are limited to soil-free plants and plant parts.

- **Certificate of Analysis:** This certificate should provide a complete chemical analysis and microbiological analysis of the product.
- **Aflatoxin Certificate:** This certificate should attest that an accredited laboratory has tested the peanut/corn products and confirm that they do not exceed proscribed regulations.
- **Residues Certificate (heavy metals, toxins, contaminants):** This certificate should declare that the fish product meets or exceeds all standards specified by Jamaica.
- **Certificate of Origin:** The certificate must state the country of origin of the product and/or raw materials.

#### **Section IV: GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENT**

- **Certificate to a Foreign Government:** The GoJ requests that a Federal/State Health Authority issue this certificate. Jamaica does not accept a supplier's or manufacturer's export declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate of free sale is valid for one year and can be applied to multiple shipments of the same product.
- **Health Certificate/Sanitary Certificate:** The GoJ requests that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. Each shipment must be accompanied by the original certificate and the original import permit (exporter's copy).
- **Meat/Poultry Inspection Certificate (Certificate of Wholesomeness):** The GoJ requires that this certificate be issued by a U.S. Federal Agency. Each shipment must be accompanied by the original certificate and the original import permit (exporter's copy).
- **Phytosanitary Certificate:** GoJ requires that this certificate is issued by a Federal Agency. The original certificate along with import permit must accompany the product at the time of entry into Jamaica.
- **Certificate of Analysis:** The government accepts a manufacturer's/supplier's export declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate is valid for the designated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the product at the time of entry.

- **Aflatoxin Certificate:** The government accepts a manufacturer's/supplier's export declarations as proof of compliance. The certificate is valid for the designated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the product at the time of entry.
- **Residue Certificate:** The government accepts a manufacturer's/supplier's export declaration as proof of compliance. The certificate is valid for the designated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the product at the time of entry.
- **Certificate of Origin:** This certificate must be issued by an official at the federal or state level. The certificate is valid for the designated shipment only, and the original certificate must accompany the product at the time of entry.
- **Coconut products:** Coconut derivatives, coconut oil producing seeds and edible oils require an import permit from the GoJ, Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA). Further information is available [Here](#)

Note: All Import Permits issued are valid for a period of three (3) months with the exception of poultry and poultry products, which are valid for a period of two (2) months. Import permits are required for each product per shipment and become invalid if the expiry date is passed or when the permit is used to import a part or whole of the quantity of the product stated on the permit.

## **Section V: OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS**

In Jamaica, there is limited laboratory testing on imported food products conducted by the regulatory agencies. However, all physical and sanitary testing on imported food products is done by the Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Division (FSPID) of the MOAF.

For additional information, please contact

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**Attachments:** [FSIS-Form-sample-9060-5.pdf](#)

[AMS Certificate for Export- Dairy & Egg Products.docx](#)

[APHIS Form 16-4 Export Certificate for Animal Products.pdf](#)

[Phytosanitary certificate PPQ Form 577.pdf](#)