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Report Highlights:

Lithuania applies harmonized European Union (EU) regulations, including requisite certificates for most animal- and plant-origin food and agricultural imports from non-EU countries. U.S. exporters should be aware that some interpretational variations can occur between EU Member States and are advised to consult with their Lithuanian importers regarding market access questions. U.S. exporters may also wish to consult with Lithuanian authorities on a case-by-case basis.

DISCLAIMER:

U.S. Embassy Warsaw’s Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) prepared this report for exporters of U.S.-origin food and agricultural products, as OAA Warsaw regionally covers Lithuania. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate due to policy changes since preparation, or because clear information about these policies was not available. FAS/Warsaw recommends that U.S. exporters verify all import requirements with their international customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. The following Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Certificate report should be read in conjunction with the 2023 Lithuania FAIRS Country report and the 2023 EU FAIRS Certificate report prepared by the U.S. Mission to the EU’s (USEU) OAA, which are available on their [website](#). 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.

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Executive Summary

EU import requirements for food, feed, animals and products, and plants and products are generally harmonized among Member States. Depending on the product, EU import requirements include specific model certificates with pre-defined attestations for animal health, plant health, food safety, or quality specifications (e.g., organic). U.S. exporters should be aware that some interpretational variations can occur between EU Member States and are advised to consult with their Lithuanian importers regarding market access questions. U.S. exporters may also wish to consult with Lithuanian authorities on a case-by-case basis.

I. List of Required Export Certificates

Lithuania applies EU export certification requirements for imported products. FAS/Warsaw recommends reading this report in conjunction with the OAA USEU 2023 EU FAIRS Country and Certificate reports, which can be found on their website [here](#). There are no additional country-specific certificates (besides EU certificates) for food imports derived from plants and animals. U.S. export certificates in English must also include an official translation into Lithuanian.

II. Purpose of the Export Certificates

EU legislation calls for many health and supervisory requirements that are meant to guarantee that imports meet the standards of production in Member States.

Products of animal origin

Following an update of the EU's Animal Health Law ([Regulation \(EU\) 2016/429](#)), which entered into force on April 21, 2021, the EU has updated all required certificates for products of animal origin. Models of the new certificates for foods of animal origin were published by the EU and implemented by U.S. agencies. Several amendments to the new certificates were made since their first publication. They are available from [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2235 \(consolidated version January 09, 2023\)](#).

Some U.S.-origin animal products from EU-approved U.S. processing plants are eligible for export to Lithuania and the EU. For these products, one or more U.S. regulatory agencies, including the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will be responsible for determining export eligibility. [EU-approved production plants](#) in the United States may be subject to EU audits.

Only the international trade of a few products/by-products and exotic animals are not harmonized under EU legislation. In such cases, Member State national regulations apply. For specific questions about shipping food and agricultural exports from the United States to Lithuania, exporters are advised to contact OAA Warsaw or consult U.S. regulatory agencies' websites in their export libraries and guides.

The EU requires veterinary and/or general health certificates to accompany each shipment of meat, which must be signed and dated prior to shipment. The competent U.S. certifying official will delete any statement(s) appearing on the EU model certificate that is not applicable. The EU imposes general requirements for all veterinary health certificates. In accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235, certificates must be issued before consignments leave control of the competent authority. Non-compliance may result in rejection at the EU port of entry.

Plants and plant products

EU import requirements for plants and plant products are harmonized. There is only one model certificate for exports and one model certificate for re-exports of plant products, in accordance with international regulations laid out by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. For more information, see the [export certification guide](#) at the IPPC website. Phytosanitary certificates are issued by APHIS inspectors, who can attest to the specific requirements of EU legislation.

Composite Products

[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. More information on the EU import conditions for composite products is available on the European Commission's [website](#).

III. Specific Attestation Required on the Export Certificate

Lithuania's State Food and Veterinary Service ([SFVS](#)) is the competent authority for all veterinary import requirements regarding products of animal origin from non-EU countries. SFVS requires that seal numbers on containers are printed on veterinary certificates. A seal number on bills of landing is not sufficient. If no seal number is present on the certificate, a physical check may be conducted to verify the identity of the shipment.

IV. Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

According to SFVS requirements, products of animal origin may be imported to Lithuania if:

- They contain original veterinary certificates drawn up in at least one of the official languages of the border inspection and the country of destination issued by the competent authority of the country of origin;
- Products are labeled in a way that can be identified;
- Products and import requirements meet all criteria published by the European Commission;
- Products, or their parts, derived from any third countries are declared;
- Products are sourced from production plants eligible to ship to the EU.

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

Detailed information on export certification can be found in the U.S. EU OAA FAIRS Export Certificate Report available on their [website](#).

[Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2020/2235 \(consolidated version January 9, 2023\)](#) contains most import certificate samples required for various food products of animal origin, including:

- meat products
- poultry and products
- eggs and related products
- milk and dairy products.

U.S. food and agricultural product exporters to Lithuania can contact OAA Warsaw with any questions or requests for additional information:

U.S. Embassy, Poland

United States Department of Agriculture/ Foreign Agricultural Service

Regional Office of Agricultural Affairs (Covering Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia)

Warsaw, Poland

Ph: +48 22 504 2336

Email: agwarsaw@state.gov

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