

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Colombia Reopens Market for US Live Cattle

Country: Colombia

Post: Bogota

Report Category: Livestock and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Export
Accomplishments - Market Access

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Report Highlights:

On September 10, 2025, Colombia officially reopened its market to U.S. live cattle under the same import requirements as previously established, following successful discussions between USDA Bogota and Colombia's Plant and Health Authority (ICA). Import requirements are now accessible through ICA's SISPAP system. This development resolves the April 2024 restrictions on U.S. live cattle and select bovine products, which were initially imposed due to concerns over Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

Market for Live Cattle Reopens

On September 9, 2025, USDA Bogota (APHIS and FAS) engaged in successful bilateral discussions with ICA to address the remaining trade barrier on U.S. live cattle imports. Following the meeting, ICA announced on September 10, 2025, that the requirements for importing U.S.-origin live cattle now fully accessible through the Health Information System for the Import and Export of Agricultural and Livestock Products ([SISPAP](#)) consultation module, effectively removing the barrier and reopening the market (See attachment: Import Health Requirements for Imported U.S. Breeding Cattle.)

ICA confirmed that it is actively monitoring import requests to ensure the list of approved establishments of origin in the United States is updated as needed. This process aims to streamline the issuance of Zoosanitary Import Documents for eligible importers.

Background

On April 15, 2024, Colombia's Plant and Health Authority (ICA) notified the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of its decision to stop issuing import permits for U.S. live cattle and bovine products. The restrictions applied to live cattle (dairy and bovine), raw meat, and meat products, fresh, chilled, or frozen, and genetic materials, including embryos and bull semen. These restrictions were implemented due to concerns about the spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) in bovine products originating in the United States.

On September 16, 2024, Colombia officially announced the reopening of the market for U.S. beef and beef products without modifying the existing certificates. It also declared the market reopened to U.S. live cattle and cattle genetics, with updated certificates requiring H5N1 testing. However, ongoing bilateral negotiations over the live cattle certificate delayed its implementation, maintaining the ban on live cattle imports despite the lifting of restrictions on U.S. beef.

In 2023, Colombia imported over \$670,000 in U.S. live cattle.

Attachments:

[ICA's Import Requirements for U.S. Live Cattle.pdf](#)