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POLICY

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Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

Indonesia Amends Export Procedures for Plant Products

Report Categories:

Citrus

Dried Fruit

Fresh Fruit

Potatoes and Potato Products

Raisins

Stone Fruit

Strawberries

Tree Nuts

Trade Policy Monitoring

Vegetables

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Report Highlights:

Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture Regulation 13/2016 updates import procedures for fresh foods of plant origin (FFPO). U.S. exporters are now required to provide “prior notice” of their cargo prior to the shipping vessel’s departure of the origin country. Indonesian quarantine has also stated that dry peas, cowpeas, mung beans, and broad beans are not covered under the U.S. food safety country recognition agreement for FFPO. Post is contesting this and is working with the Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine

Agency (IAQA) to include these products in the U.S. FFPO.

Indonesia's Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) recently updated import procedures via Regulation 13/2016. The new regulation coincides with the rollout of an online registration system, which will be used to document arriving shipments. A key measure in MOA 13/2016 requires shippers to provide "prior notice" of their cargo prior to the transporting vessel's departure of the country. Some exporters have expressed concerns that prior notice, as required by MOA 13/2016, is not feasible given that not all required information is available at the time of the vessel's departure. Post notes that the Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine Agency (IAQA) clarified that in the event an exporter is not able to provide complete information prior to the vessels departure from the origin country, the exporter can submit a second prior notice with complete information before the consignment is unloaded.

The regulation also provides new procedures for the issuance of Certificates of Analysis (COA). Post notes that these procedural changes are insignificant for U.S. exporters due to Indonesia's equivalence recognition of the U.S. food safety system for fresh foods of plant origin (FFPO). It is noteworthy to mention, however, that the new regulation permits registered U.S. laboratories to issue COA's on behalf of exporting countries without FFPO recognition.

In addition to this regulation, IAQA reported to Post that U.S. FFPO status was only applicable to an explicit list of plant products. Products excluded from the list would need to comply with the same requirements as products originating in non-FFPO countries. Post understands that this list includes dry peas, cowpeas, mung beans, and broad beans. Post is contesting this and is working with IAQA to include these products in the U.S. food safety country recognition agreement for FFPO.