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## **Trinidad and Tobago**

**Post:** Miami ATO

### **Industry Advisement-Trinidad and Tobago Identifies Dairy Certification**

#### **Authorities**

#### **Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Trade Policy Incident Report

Trade Policy Monitoring

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#### **Report Highlights:**

In March 2015 Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Food Production reconfirmed the U.S. competent authorities recognized for certification of dairy products and foods that contain a dairy component sourced from the United States. Product classification should be based on the Harmonized System (HS) descriptor. The U.S. supplier should consult the appropriate authority identified herein for product certification prior to shipment of order.

## General Information:

In March 2015, the Animal Health Subdivision of Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Food Production reconfirmed the U.S. competent authorities recognized for certification of dairy products for human consumption sourced from the United States as:

- (1) The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS/USDA) - for certification of dairy products of U.S. origin,
- (2) The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS/USDA) - for certification of dairy products of third-country origin sourced from the United States, and
- (3) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) - for certification of processed foods and food ingredients containing animal products as well as shelf stable food preparations and minor dairy food products (typically of less than five percent by volume).

Further, the International Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System or HS) established by the World Customs Organization should guide determination and classification of the product as "dairy" or "non-dairy."

More detailed information related to the respective certification authorities can be obtained from the following web-sites:

- (1) AMS/USDA [Grading, Certification and Verification](#) web-page.

Note: Trinidad and Tobago does not require specific certification language for dairy products. Therefore, the U.S. exporter needs only to complete and submit the [Sanitary Certificate Worksheet \[DOCX\]](#) referenced on that web-site.

- (2) APHIS/USDA Animal Health International Regulations (IREgs) [Trinidad and Tobago Requirements](#) web-page.

Note: Trinidad and Tobago does require specific certification language for products of third country origin sourced from the United States. Refer to the file "**Dairy for Human Consumption, January 2014 (pdf)**" available on this web-site for additional details.

The Animal Products and the Veterinary Service "**(VS) Export Certificates and Instructions**" identified in the "Dairy for Human Consumption" letter is available at [IREgs for Animal Product Exports](#) web-page.

- (3) The U.S. FDA [Export Certificates Information](#) web-page.

Note: Trinidad and Tobago does not require specific certification language for foods containing a minor dairy component. The "Export Certificate," commonly referred to as a "Certificate of Free Sale," may be issued by FDA-CFSAN (via information provide on the web-page link above) or by a State governmental authority (links not provided here).

The “Export Certificate,” more commonly referred to as a “Certificate of Free Sale,” may be issued by FDA-CFSAN via information provide on this web-pate or by a State governmental authority.

Note: Certificate processing time requirements differ by U.S. agency. Please factor in this time requirement when filling your order.

(4) The Harmonized Systems (HS) “dairy” product classifications are shown here by HS Chapter.Heading.SubHeading - General Descriptor.

**“Dairy Product” Classifications**

- 04.01 - Milk and Cream, not concentrated nor sweetened
- 04.02 - Milk and Crème Concentrated
- 04.03 - Yogurt
- 04.04 - Whey and Modified Whey
- 04.05 - Butter
- 04.06 - Cheese
- 17.02.11 - Lactose and Lactose Syrup
- 17.02.19 - Lactose and Lactose Syrup: Other
- 21.05.00 - Ice Cream and other Edible Ice
- 35.01.10 - Casein and other Casein Derivatives
- 35.01.90 - Casein and other Casein Derivatives: Other
- 35.02.20 - Milk Albumin, and Concentrates of Two or more Whey Protein
- 35.07.10 - Rennet and Concentrates thereof

Note: For the U.S. exporter a Schedule B number is the 10-digit number used in the United States to classify physical goods for export to another country. The Schedule B is based on the International Harmonized System (HS) of 6-digit commodity classification codes. The [U.S. Schedule B 2015](#) is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau.