

**Animal Health Division
Livestock Industry Department
Agricultural Production Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries**

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Our reference : 15/ Saishuiku / 1535

Date : 10. JUN. 2003

**Dr Peter Fernandez
Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services
USDA-APHIS
1400 Independence Avenue SW
J.L. Whitten Building, Room 317-E
Washington, D.C. 20250
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Re: Animal health requirements for meat and viscera derived from cloven-hoofed animals and sausages, ham and bacon made from the said meat and viscera as raw materials to be exported to Japan from the Exported country

Dear Dr Fernandez,

I would like to inform you that we have revised 'the list of the third free countries' of the heading animal health requirements (our ref no: 5-155, 4 February 1995) established between the two animal health authorities as per attached.

We have deleted Canada from the list of countries which are eligible to export cloven-hoofed animals and their meat, etc. (other than pig and pig meat, etc.) to Japan in light of confirmation of a single case of BSE in Canada. We already notified the Canadian authorities of import suspension of live cattle, sheep, goats and meat and meat products derived from these animals on 21st May 2003.

In order to protect Japan from possible introduction of BSE, I would like to ask you again not to export beef and its product, which is derived from the cattle born, raised or slaughtered in the countries with indigenous BSE cases and EU member countries, to Japan through your country. Therefore, I would like to ask you again to indicate the country of origin where the cattle from which the exported meat product to Japan was produced were born, raised and slaughtered in the health certificate issued by your animal health authorities on and after 1st July 2003.

The third free countries (countries, regions or zones approved as free from rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, african swine fever, bovine spongiform encephalopathy or classical swine fever by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan or by the Japanese animal health authorities which are allowed to export the meat etc., to Japan, specified in animal health requirements for meat and viscera etc. derived from cloven-hoofed animals)

1. The third free countries of cloven-hoofed animals and the meat, etc. derived from cloven-hoofed animals (other than pigs and pig meat, etc.) (countries, regions or zones approved as free from rinderpest, FMD, ASF and BSE and eligible to export to Japan)

Norway, Hungary, Iceland, the USA (continental part of America, the Hawaiian Islands and Guam only, excluding Cervidae animals or deer meat, etc.), Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Chile, Northern-Mariana Islands, New Zealand, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Australia, and

EU countries (Finland, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Italy (excluding Sardinia island), the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Austria, Spain and Ireland only, Cervidae animals or deer meat, etc. only)

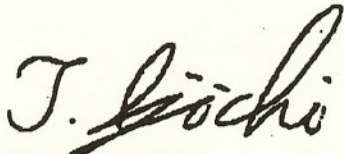
2. The third free countries of the pigs and the pig meat, etc (countries, regions or zones approved as free from rinderpest, FMD, ASF and CSF and eligible to export to Japan)

Finland, Sweden, Norway, Hungary, Denmark, Italy (excluding Sardinia island), the Netherlands, France (excluding the departments of Ardennes, Meuse, Meurthe-et-Moselle, Moselle and Bas-rhin), Austria (excluding the states of Burgenland, Niederösterreich and Wien), Spain, Ireland, Iceland, Canada, the USA (continental part of America, the Hawaiian Islands and Guam only), Mexico (states of Sonora, Chihuahua and Yucatan only), Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Chile, Northern-Mariana Islands, New Zealand, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Australia

Accordingly, Articles 13, 14 and 22(1) regarding the re-export of beef from the country with BSE cases to Japan through your country are deleted from the current animal health requirements for meat and meat products derived from cloven-hoofed animal to Japan from your country.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Ijichi', written in a cursive style.

Toshikazu Ijichi
Director

Requirements for CSF.

The pig meat, viscera and such meat products as sausage, ham and to be exported to Japan from the USA (hereinafter referred to as "the exported pig meat etc."), must be subject to the following additional requirements with regard to Classical Swine Fever (hereinafter referred to as "CSF"):

1. the USA is free from CSF (Both in the domestic pigs and the wild pigs outbreak case. The same is following.).
2. Vaccination against CSF is prohibited in the USA .
3. Importation of pigs (Including the boar. The same is following.) vaccinated against CSF into the USA is prohibited.
4. The pig which can be used for the production of the exported pig meat etc., to Japan are those that have been born and raised only in the USA or that have been directly imported from the third free country in Annex 2.2.
5. The pig meat etc., are produced in the facilities which handled only the pigs or the pig meat etc., to Japan are those that are derived from the pigs born and raised only in the USA or from the pigs directly imported from the third free country in Annex 2.2.
6. The exported pig meat etc. are produced in the facilities which handled only the pigs or the pig meat etc. complying with the requirements of items 4 and 5 mentioned above.
7. If pig meat etc., from a third free country used for the production of the exported pig meat etc. must be accompanied by a certificate of the government authorities of the exporting country attesting item (1) to (3) regard to CSF.
 - (1) A third free country or zone is free from CSF.
 - (2) Vaccination against CSF is prohibited in a third free country or zone.
 - (3) Importation of pigs vaccinated against CSF is prohibited in a third free country or zone.
8. The feeding of swill is prohibited in the USA, unless the swill has been treated to inactivate any CSF virus.