

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Belarus

**Post:** Moscow

### **Bovine Semen Market Reopening**

**Report Categories:**

Livestock and Products

FAIRS Subject Report

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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**Report Highlights:**

In October 2018, the Republic of Belarus and USDA finalized an addendum to the Veterinary Certificate for Bovine Semen Exported to the Russian Federation for Purposes of Import to the Republic of Belarus to reopen the Belarusian market for U.S. exports of bovine semen. Belarus is a net exporter of beef and dairy with plans to further develop and improve its herds in order to increase exports.

Belarus imported 413,000 US dollars' worth of bovine semen in 2017.

**General Information:**

In October 2018, the Republic of Belarus and USDA finalized “Addendum to the Veterinary Certificate for Bovine Semen Exported to the Russian Federation for Purposes of Import to the Republic of Belarus.” The agreement should reopen the Belarusian market for U.S. exports of bovine semen.

The Republic of Belarus has confirmed to USDA that it is possible to import bovine semen from the United States to the Republic of Belarus using the certificate negotiated between Russia and the United States in 2006 accompanied by the addendum that should be signed and issued by the USDA-accredited veterinarian and endorsed by the APHIS federal veterinarian, as part of the final health certificate.

Belarus is a net exporter of beef and dairy with plans to further develop and improve its herds in order to increase exports. Russia currently accounts for over 85-90 percent of all Belarusian beef and dairy exports. Both Russia and Belarus are founders and members of the [Eurasian Economic Union](#) (EAEU). The U.S. exported bovine semen to Belarus in 2005-2011 prior to full entry into force of the EAEU regulations on its veterinary certificates. The value of U.S. exports peaked at around 350,000 US dollars in 2008, when the United States accounted for 35 percent of Belarusian bovine semen imports.

Overall, Belarusian imports of bovine semen reached a record-high in 2012 at around 1.5 million US dollars, falling to 413,000 US dollars in 2017. Canada used to be the largest exporter of bovine semen to Belarus in 2008-2015 accounting for 70 to 100 percent of all Belarusian bovine semen imports during the period. However, Canada’s share fell to less than 40 percent in 2016, and zero in 2017, with Germany, Hungary and the Netherlands accounting for 54, 21, and 20 percent, respectively, of Belarusian bovine semen imports in 2017.