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Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

This report provides information on the export certificates required by the Government of Croatia. This is an annual report that was updated in October 2020.

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Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the USDA/FAS Office of Agricultural Affairs in Zagreb, Croatia, for exporters of U.S. food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, the information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY’S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

Executive Summary

All sections of the previous FAIRS Export Certificate Report have been updated to reflect EU certification requirements at the time this report was written. For the most recent update, also check the referenced website of the agencies issuing the certificates.

Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required by Government (Matrix)

Croatia as a member of the European Union follows EU directives and regulations. It is therefore recommended that this report be read in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Export Certificate Report produced by the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium:

[EU-28 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#)

or search:

[GAIN Reports](#)

The document requirements for exporting animals, plants, and food to the EU are extensive. The EU-28 FAIRS Export Certificate Report gives an overview of the required EU health certificates for products imported into or transiting through the European Union. It should be noted, however, that model certificates may not be available for products that have never been exported to the EU before or if the relevant U.S. authority is not in a position to provide the guarantees as required by the EU. References to the EU legislation that forms the basis for the health certificate are also provided in the [EU-28 FAIRS](#).

While certification requirements are developed at the EU level, the member state (MS) inspection services are responsible for enforcement of EU legislation through inspection of imported goods and the corresponding certificates.

Croatian Competent Authorities

- Croatian State Inspectorate (all inspection services, e.g. veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary)

Šubićeva 29,
10 000 Zagreb
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Tel: +385 1 23 75 100
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- Croatian EFSA Focal Point

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<https://www.hapih.hr/about-us/>

In general, health certificates are required for all imported products of animal origin and phytosanitary certificates are needed for all plant products that could introduce pests into the EU. Import certificates must be in the official language of Croatia, which is Croatian (bilingual certificates English/Croatian are admissible).

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

Import requirements for animals and animal products are harmonized across the EU. The EU must recognize a country as eligible to export a particular animal or animal product. The EU has lists of approved establishments based on submissions from U.S. government agencies. Only those products processed at approved establishments may enter the EU. The U.S. agencies involved in developing official establishment lists are the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Approved establishments may be subject to EU inspection. All EU-approved establishment lists are available at [Third Country Establishments](#) and the links for the U.S. agencies can be found in Section V. under the Competent Authorities. The EU imposes a number of general requirements for all veterinary certificates. The U.S. regulatory agencies which issue health certificates (FSIS, APHIS, and Agricultural Market Service - AMS) have all included pertinent requirements in their export libraries. Lastly, animal or public health certificates based on the model certificates published by the European Union and signed by U.S. officials must accompany all shipments.

The EU import requirements for plants and plant products also have been harmonized and are published in a single directive. Unlike veterinary products, there is only one model certificate for all plant products per international regulations in accordance with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (see: [IPPC Publications](#) and [IPPC Export Certification](#)). Phytosanitary certificates are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to specific requirements of EU legislation by making additional declarations in the relevant boxes.

Composite Products - Products Subject/Not Subject to Veterinary Certification:

All composite products containing a processed meat product are subject to a veterinary check, according to the requirements of [Commission Decision 2007/275/EC](#). Composite products are defined as foodstuffs intended for human consumption that contain processed products of animal origin and ingredients of plant origin. Composite products include a wide variety of products, including cheesecakes, high protein food supplements, pizza, and lasagna. The U.S. is eligible to ship hormone-free meat, dairy products, egg products, and fishery products. It is often no longer possible to ship the composite products that combine these eligible ingredients.

Composite products that have more than 50 percent animal origin products also require a certificate. There are certificate requirements for heat treatment for all dairy products. The EU has created a model health certificate for imports of composite products, which was implemented in 2012. A detailed “Product Decision Tree” to clarify the scope of the legislation was made available by the European Commission in 2013. This guidance greatly expanded the number and types of products affected by the legislation. The decision tree is included in the further [guidance](#) that was developed and published in 2015 to address a wide range of implementation questions related to the import and transit of composite products. For details consult [EU-28 FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) ,

Section III. Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificate(s)

Whenever the EU publishes model veterinary certificates for use by eligible third country suppliers, U.S. regulatory agencies will cross-out any statement that refers to health situations that are not relevant to the United States.

Certificates for plants and plant products are issued by APHIS inspectors, who attest to the specific requirements of EU and Croatian legislation with the necessary declarations in the space provided on the phytosanitary certificate. These declarations are specific for different plant species and they are subject to change, thus the shipper needs to check for the most recent change before actual export.

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

The original version of the certificate must accompany consignments at the point of entry into the EU. Each shipment should be accompanied by an original certificate; that is, certificates cannot apply to multiple shipments. Certificates must normally be drawn up in the language of the country of dispatch (English for the United States) and the Member State (MS) in which the border inspection takes place and the final destination. Member States may agree to accept certificates in another official EU language other than their own.

For the Croatian market and border crossings, certificates must be in the official language of the Republic of Croatia, which is Croatian, as well as the MS where the border inspection occurs, if the product is not exported directly to the Republic of Croatia. According to Croatia's "[Act on the Import of Food and Feed from Third Countries](#)" (Governmental Gazette NN39/2013, NN114/2018); the responsible party in the import procedure must provide the inspectors with the analytical reports and certificates in the Latin alphabet and translated into the Croatian language (bilingual English/Croatian certificates are admissible).

All certificates can be found in Croatian on the EU Official Journal website ([EUR-Lex](#)) under the relevant regulation.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements to Ensure Market Entry

There are no additional Croatian certificates (other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals.

U.S. Competent Authorities

The following is a list of U.S. agencies that issue certificates along with a link to the relevant pages on their websites:

- AMS: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

AMS certification and verification programs support American exporters by ensuring that products meet specific export requirements for countries around the world, including in the European Union (dairy, eggs, honey, etc...).

European Union Dairy Health Certification Program

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/european-union-health-certification-program>

Certification for Eggs and Egg Products

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/eggs-egg-products>

Certification for Honey

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/imports-exports/honey>

Certification for Seeds for Sprouting

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-announces-seed-sprouting-export-certification-program>

- APHIS: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA

APHIS provides certification relating to animal and plant health diseases and pests.

International Animal Export Regulations:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/>

International Animal Products Export Regulations:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/>

Plant Export Services:

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/SA_Export

- FDA: Food and Drug Administration

FDA provides export certificates for food and food additives. FDA issues all EU export certificates for gelatin and collagen for human consumption and will only issue certificates to exporters that have been included in the EU approved list of collagen and gelatin establishments.

<https://www.fda.gov/food/exporting-food-products-united-states/food-export-certificates>

- FSIS: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA

FSIS provides certification for products of animal origin (meat, poultry, and eggs).

<https://www.fda.gov/food/exporting-food-products-united-states/food-export-certificates>

- NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The NOAA Seafood Inspection Program is the competent authority within the U.S. Government for issuance of certain certificates required for the export of fish and fish products to the European Union (EU). However, establishments wishing to export fish and fishery products to the EU still need to apply to FDA for inclusion on the EU export certificate list. Establishments may apply for inclusion on these

lists via the Export Listing Module (ELM). Please visit [Online Applications for Export Lists](#) for a link to this electronic system and step-by-step instructions.

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/content/export-certification>

Croatian Competent Authorities

- Croatian State Inspectorate (all inspection services, e.g. veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary)

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10 000 Zagreb

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- Croatian EFSA Focal Point

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<https://www.hapih.hr/about-us/>

Appendix I. Electronic Copy, Scanned Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

There are no additional Croatian certificates (Other than EU certificates) for food products derived from plants and animals for the time being.

Attachments:

No Attachments