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Mexico

Livestock and Products

Mexico Announces Sampling Procedures for Animal and Poultry Products

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Report Highlights:

On November 1, 2003, the Government of Mexico will begin sampling, testing, and holding two percent of all meat shipments until test results are known. Samples will be tested for a variety of residues including heavy metals and antibiotics. However, officials have indicated that the Government of Mexico will no longer apply the test and hold provisions of NOM 030 in the event of a positive finding for heavy metals.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

On October 2, 2003, an official letter was sent from the office of the Director General of Agricultural Health Inspection at the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) notifying all the offices of Agricultural Health Inspection (OISA) at the border points of entry to Mexico of the new procedures for taking samples on meat and poultry products entering Mexico as of November 1, 2003.

SAGARPA will begin sampling and holding two percent of all shipments containing the products outlined in the letter. Shipments that are sampled will be detained until the test results are known. SAGARPA officials indicate that they will be testing for a variety of residues including heavy metals and antibiotics on a random basis. Note: While SAGARPA will be testing for heavy metals, officials indicate that the test and hold procedures outlined in NOM-030 have been suspended.

SAGARPA officials have informed the Office of Foreign Agricultural Affairs that they will strive to conduct the tests and release the shipments as rapidly as possible, possibly within three days. Comment: Shipments that have been detained previously under the test and hold procedures applied to heavy metals have typically been held for five to ten days.

The English translation of the letter from SAGARPA follows:

On basis of Article 47, paragraph V, of the Federal Animal Health Law and section 8.1 of NOM-058-ZOO-1999, "Specifications for the Installations and Operations of the Verification and Sanitary Inspection Points, relative to the Taking of Samples for Analysis of Toxic and Microbiological Residues", and whose results should be an indispensable requirement for its importation to Mexico; in this regard, to fulfill this requirement, on November 1, 2003, the following procedure must be applied:

Considering the commercial flow that occurs at each OISA per day, the quantity of shipments to be detained by randomly considering 2 percent of the total per day (Table 1) will be determined by using a table of random numbers. In case table 1 cannot be applied per day, it will be applied by week or by month, depending on the commercial movement at each OISA.

The selection applies for the tariff codes indicated in Table 2.

Table 1. No. of shipments retained, until the results are issued, considering 2 percent of the total imports per day by OISA.

No. of Shipments (2 %)	No. of Shipments that should be retained
0-10	1
0-50	1
51-100	2
101-150	3
151-200	4
201-250	5
251-300	6
301-351	7
351-400	8

Table 2. The classification and codification of the animals (except aquatic) is established, the merchandise of animal origin and the merchandise to be used in animals (except aquatic), whose introduction to Mexico is subject to fulfilling that which is indicated in the import

protocol (hojas de requisitos) issued by the General Director of Animal Health of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food, (SAGARPA), and that have to be inspected at the border point of entry to the country, in the terms of the manual of procedures issued by SAGARPA and conforming to that indicated in article 6 of this agreement, comprised in the tariff classifications of the General Law of Import and Export Duties indicated as follows:

TARIFF CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
0201 Bovine meat, fresh or chilled	
0201.10.01	Carcass or half carcass
0201.20.99	Other cuts (pieces) bone-in
0201.30.01	Boneless
0202 Bovine meat, frozen	
0202.10.01	Carcass or half carcass
0202.20.99	Other cuts (pieces) bone-in
0202.30.01	Boneless
0203 Pork meat, fresh or frozen	
0203.11.01	Carcass or half carcass
0203.12.01	Hams, shoulders and its pieces, bone-in
0203.19.99	Others
0203.21.01	Carcass or half carcass
0203.22.01	Hams, shoulders and its pieces, bone-in
0203.29.99	Others
0204 Goat or sheep meat, fresh or frozen	
0204.10.01	Lamb carcass or half carcass, fresh or chilled
0204.21.01	Carcass or half carcass
0204.22.99	Other cuts (pieces) bone-in
0204.23.01	Boneless
0204.30.01	Lamb carcass or half carcass, frozen
0204.41.01	Carcass or half carcass
0204.42.99	Other cuts (pieces) bone-in
0204.43.01	Boneless
0204.50.01	Meat from goats
0205. Horse meat, asses or mules, fresh or frozen	
0205.00.01	Meat from animals of the species, horse, asses or mules, fresh, chilled or frozen
0206 Offals from bovines, porcine, ovine, caprine, horses, asses or mules, fresh, chilled or frozen	
0206.10.01	From bovine species, fresh or chilled
0206.22.01	Beef livers
0206.29.99 - includes kidneys	Others
0206.41.01	Pork livers
0207 Meat and edible offals from poultry,	

fresh and frozen	
0207.11.01	Whole, fresh or chilled
0207.12.01	Whole, frozen
0207.13.01	Mechanically deboned
0207.13.02	Carcass
0207.13.99	Others
0207.14.01	Mechanically deboned
0207.14.02	Livers
0207.14.03	Carcass
0207.14.99	Others
0207.24.01	Whole, fresh or chilled
0207.25.01	Whole, frozen
0207.26.01	Mechanically deboned
0207.2602	Carcass
0207.26.99	Others
0207.27.01	Mechaically deboned
0207.27.02	Livers
0207.27.03	Carcass
0207.27.99	Others
0207.32.01	Whole, fresh or chilled
0207.33.01	Whole, frozen
0207.34.01	Livers with fat, fresh or chilled
0207.35.99	Others, fresh or chilled
0207.36.01	Livers
0207.36.99	Others
0208 All other meats and offals, fresh or frozen	
0208.10.01	Rabbit or hares
0208.30.01	Primates
0208.90.01	Meat or offals from deer
0208.90.99	Others