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**Date:** 12/19/2012

**GAIN Report Number:** TS1208

## **Tunisia**

### **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification**

#### **2012 FAIRS Export Certificate Report**

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**Report Highlights:**

This report identifies the major export certificates required by the Tunisian government to export U.S. food and agricultural products to Tunisia. Officially, the only certificates accepted for custom clearance are those negotiated and approved by the Tunisian regulatory agencies and the exporting countries. For animal products, the only certificate that is fully agreed by APHIS and Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture is the dairy and the hides' certificates. In the meantime, importers of others U.S. food products need to work with the import control agencies to find alternate ways to certify the safety of their imported products on a case-by-case basis.

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### **DISCLAIMER**

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Tunis, Tunisia for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, 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.**

Please contact this office, if you have any comments, corrections or suggestions about the material contained in this report. Our e-Mail address is [agtunis@usda.gov](mailto:agtunis@usda.gov)

**Section I. List of All Export Certificates Required By Government (Matrix) :**

<b>Product(s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on the Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Government Entity</b>
Milk and Dairy Products	Sanitary Certificate for thermally treated milk and dairy products	-Certificate approved by APHIS and Tunisian Min Ag -No need for additional documentation beyond the certificate See model #1 in Appendix.		Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)
Sheep and Goats	Sanitary certificate for ovine and caprine breeding animals  Sanitary certificate for small ruminants semen	-Country of origin -Heard of origin -Lab testing and treatments  See model #2 and 3 in Appendix		Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)
Cattle Semen	Sanitary Certificate for Frozen bovine semen	-Country of origin -Animal providing semen  See model #4 in Appendix.	Approval criteria correspond to the requirements of International Zoosanitary Code.	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)
Heifers/bull calves	Veterinary Health certificate (Still being negotiated)	-Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin -Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity -Certificate for international transportation of live animals	Health certificate	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)

<b>Product(s)</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Attestation Required on the Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Government Entity</b>
Beef-frozen meat	Sanitary Certificate for Beef-frozen meat	-Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin -Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity	Meat is healthy and fit for human consumption	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)
Rabbits	Sanitary Certificate for breeding rabbits	-Animal vaccination  See Model Certificate # 7 in	Health certificate	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)

		Appendix.		
Hides and Skins	Sanitary Veterinary Certificate	APHIS Certificate -Standard VS Form 16-4 with no additional declarations -Approved	Ensure that hides have been obtained from animals free of signs of transmissible diseases	Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Veterinary Division)
Plants and Part of Plants	Phytosanitary Certificate	-Standardized IPPC Phytosanitary Certificate model -Varietal certificate (authorizing the importation of the variety)	Plants or parts of the plants are free of quarantine pests. Phytosanitary certificate must be issued no more than 14 days before the actual shipping.	Ministry of Agriculture And water resources (Plant protection Division)
Seeds	Phytosanitary Certificate	Several Certificates are required: -See standardized IPPC phytosanitary certificate model -Varietal certificate (authorizing the importation of the variety)	Certify that the seeds are free of quarantine pests -Certificate must be issued no more than 14 days before the actual shipping.	Ministry of Agriculture And water resources (Plant protection Division)
Strawberries plants	Phytosanitary Certificate	Standardized IPPC phytosanitary certificate model Additional certificates : products are free of nematodes and parasites	Certify that the plants have been inspected and tested according to appropriate US procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine organism.	Ministry of Agriculture And water resources (Plant protection Division)

## Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

### 1. Dairy Products

**Name of the Certificate:** Sanitary Certificate of thermally treated milk and dairy products. Longstanding constraints that blocked approval of this certificate included the Tunisian government's insistence that certificate must state that imported products are "free" of dioxin, radioactive materials, or growth hormones were resolved. The new agreed certificate is attached in appendix.

**Purpose of the Certificate:** Products are prepared in accordance with HACCP principles recommended by Codex Alimentarius.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

### 2. Sheep and Goats

**Name of the Certificate:** Sanitary certificate for ovine and caprine breeding animals and sanitary certificate for small ruminants' semen.

**Purpose of the Certificate:** Products conform to the 2007 edition of the IE International Zoo sanitary Code.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

### 3. Semen - Cattle

**Name of the Certificates:**

- Sanitary Certificate

- Results of Laboratory Analysis
- Performance Records

**Purpose of the Certificates:**

- Prevent import of semen with diseases of concern.
- Performance Records: Several antibiotics have to be added in order to ensure minimal concentrations of penicillin and dehydrostreptomycine.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

**4. Live Cattle – Heifers/bull calves**

**Name of the Certificates:**

- Veterinary Health certificate
  - Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity
  - Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin
  - Certificate for international transportation of live animals

**Purpose of the Certificates:** Health certificate

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

**5. Beef-frozen meat**

**Name of the Certificates:** Several Certificates are required:

- Sanitary Certificate
- Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity
- Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin

**Purpose of the Certificates:** Meat is healthy and suitable for human consumption

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

**6. Rabbits**

**Name of the Certificate:** Sanitary Certificate for breeding rabbits

**Purpose of the Certificate:** Certify that the animal is declared officially free of rabbit hemorrhagic illness.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

**7. Hides and Skins**

**Name of the Certificates:** Sanitary Veterinary Certificate for Import of Hides and Skins. This certificate is approved between APHIS and Tunisian Ministry of agriculture.

**Purpose of the Certificates:** Ensure that hides have been obtained from animals free of signs of transmissible diseases

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

**8. Plants and Parts of Plants**

**Name of the Certificate:** Phytosanitary Certificate according to the IPPC model.

**Purpose of the Certificate:** Certify that the plants or parts of plants are free of quarantine pests.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

The phytosanitary certificates must be issued no more than 14 days before the actual shipping.

## 9. Seeds

**Name of the Certificates:**

Several Certificates are required:

- Standardized IPPC phytosanitary certificate model
  - Varietal certificate (authorizing the importation of the variety)

**Purpose of the Certificates:** Certify that the seeds are free of quarantine pests.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and water resources

## 10. Strawberries plants

**Name of the Certificate:** Phytosanitary Certificate according to the IPPC model.

**Purpose of the Certificate:** Certify that the plant has been inspected and tested according to appropriate US procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine organism.

**Requiring Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources

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

### 1. Dairy Products

Sanitary Certificate was successfully negotiated between APHIS and Ministry of Agriculture. See the certificate agreed on by the two parties (model #1) in Appendix.

### 2. Sheep and Goats

(Model # 3) in Appendix.

### 3. Semen - Cattle

(Model #4) in Appendix. The country or the zone is free or has a small incidence of BSE

### 4. Live Cattle – Heifers/bull calves

(Model #5) in Appendix. The heifers originate from premises where no clinical case of the hereafter diseases was shown:

- bovine spongiform encephalopathy forever; paratuberculosis for at least 5 years; anthrax, rabies leptospirosis, bovine genital campylobacteriosis, malignant catarrhal fever, or scabies for one year at least.

### 5. Beef-frozen meat

(model #6) in Appendix.

Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity

Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin

## **6. Rabbits**

(model #7) in Appendix.

## **7. Hides and Skins**

Model certificate developed by USDA and Ministry of Agriculture.  
APHIS Certificate– Standard VS Form 16-4 with no additional declarations

## **8. Plants and Parts of Plants**

**See Standardized IPPC Phytosanitary model**

## **9. Seeds**

Standardized IPPC phytosanitary certificate model

**Mandatory Additional Declaration:** Varietal certificate (authorizing the importation of the variety).  
For plants and seeds, importers must apply for a certificate delivered by the Ministry of agriculture ensuring that the variety imported is already registered and homologated in Tunisia.

## **10. Strawberries plants**

**See Standardized IPPC Phytosanitary model**

## **Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements**

Sanitary control of animal and plants products imported into Tunisia and their conformity with local regulation is handled out primarily by Ministry of Agriculture inspectors. The veterinary and the plant protection divisions of the ministry are the key point of the clearing process which consists of two main steps:

### 1. Customs control :

In order to clear customs, an application form has to be submitted along with the following documents:

- Commercial invoice
- Packing list
- Bill of lading
- *Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Veterinary certificates (original copies)*
- Additional declaration and other document (s) at the discretion of the Authorities (as the varietal certificates for plants and seeds).

In addition to the above-mentioned documents specific certificates are required for dioxin residues and for radioactivity contamination. The import declaration can be made electronically on-line with the Tunisian customs. As a result, time needed to conduct an import declaration has been reduced significantly to 45 minutes. Officially, the only certificates accepted for custom clearance are those negotiated and approved by the Tunisian regulatory agencies and the exporting

countries. For animal products, the only certificate that is fully agreed by APHIS and Tunisian MinAg is the dairy and the hides' certificates (standard VS Form 15-4). In the meantime, importers of U.S. food products need to work with the import control agencies to find alternate ways to certify the safety of their imported products on a case-by-case basis.

## 2. Technical quality control :

Prior to final customs clearance, the majority of consumer-oriented food products (apart from animal origin products) are subject to a technical quality control in order to obtain a document called "Autorisation de Mise a la Consommation" (AMC). Thus, to expedite customs clearance, the importer is entitled first to a temporary document called 'Autorisation Provisoire d'Enlevement' (APE), but must refrain from distributing or further processing the imported good until the AMC is issued by the Ministry of Commerce's Directorate of Quality and Consumer Protection. Samples of the imported goods are sent to Ministry of Agriculture's approved laboratory for analysis, which may delay the customs clearance process for several days. Complaints have been voiced by importers, including those buying U.S. products, concerning the long delays to clear customs and time-consuming technical controls, with samples have to undergo multiple laboratory testing. The list of the products concerned by the technical control is regularly published in departmental orders. In general, the list focuses more on consumer-ready food products and beverages rather than bulk products. The technical control procedures are, in general confusing and redundant procedures.

Issuance Date/Duration of the certificates: the Tunisian regulation explicitly requires that phytosanitary certificates (for fresh fruits and vegetable and live plant materials) be issued at most 14 days before loading. For pre-packaged food, items shall have at least 50 percent remaining of their shelf life period to be admitted into the country.

## **Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements**

A certificate indicating the amount of dioxin residue is required for all imports of bulk and processed food items. A certificate of non-contamination from radioactivity issued at the country of origin or failing that delivered in Tunisia by the National Center for Radioprotection after testing is also required.

## Appendix I. Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

### APPENDIX I: Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

#### Model Certificate # 1

CERTIFICAT SANITAIRE RELATIF A L'EXPORTATION  
VERS LA TUNISIE DE LAIT ET DE PRODUITS LAITIERS TRAITES THERMIQUEMENT  
DESTINES A LA CONSOMMATION HUMAINE

SANITARY CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT  
TO TUNISIA OF THERMALLY TREATED MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS DESTINED FOR  
HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Pays expéditeur / Shipper Country:

Autorité compétente / Competent Authority:

#### I - Identification du Produit / Product Identification

Nom du produit / Product Name:.....

Nature des emballages / Packaging :.....

Nombre d'unités / Number of Units: .....

Poids net total / Total Net Weight: .....

Fabricant / Manufacturer: .....

N° d'agrément Approval N°	N° de lot Lot N°	Date de production Production date	Nombre d'unités Number of units		Poids net (kg) Net weight (kg)

#### II - Provenance de l'envoi / Origin of Shipment

a) Pays d'origine / Country of origin:

b) Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur / Shipper Name and Address:

.....

#### III - Destination de l'envoi / Destination of Shipment

a) L'envoi a été de / Shipment sent from:

b) Nom et adresse du destinataire / Recipient Name and Address:

.....

#### **IV - Attestation sanitaire / Health Attestation**

Je soussigné l'agent certificateur officiel certifie que / I the undersigned certifying official, certify that:

1. Le produit a été fabriqué à partir de lait qui a reçu un traitement de pasteurisation ou que des garanties adéquates ont été prises dans le but d'éviter les risques pour la santé publique résultant d'organismes pathogènes associés au lait.

The product was manufactured from milk that received a pasteurization treatment or adequate safeguards have been taken with the aim of avoiding public health hazards arising from pathogenic organisms associated with milk.

2. Le produit a été fabriqué dans des installations inspectées et approuvées par l'autorité compétente et soumises à des audits réguliers ou des inspections visant à garantir que le traitement est effectué de manière correcte et hygiénique pour produire un produit qui est sain et propre à la consommation humaine.

The product was manufactured in facilities inspected and approved by the competent authority and subjected to regular audits or inspections aimed at ensuring that the processing is properly and hygienically carried out, to produce a product that is safe and fit for human consumption.

3. Les produits, avant d'être exportés, ont été préparés, emballés, transportés et détenus selon une réglementation destinée à assurer le respect des bonnes pratiques d'hygiène et d'un système de sécurité alimentaire efficace de contrôle mis en œuvre en conformité avec les systèmes HACCP, le cas échéant et conformément aux dispositions du Code d'usages du Codex d'hygiène pour le lait et produits de laits.

The products were prepared, packed, held and transported prior to export under a system of regulations intended to ensure good hygienic practice and an effective food safety control system that allows for HACCP systems where appropriate and that meets or exceeds the provisions within the Codex Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products.

4. Le lait et produits laitiers contenus dans le présent envoi ont été produits dans un système de sécurité américain qui vise à assurer la sécurité de ces produits. Le lait et les produits laitiers produits en vertu du présent système de sécurité américain, répondent, en autres, aux critères de santé publique suivant:

- Traitement pour détruire les organismes pathogènes, y compris le traitement thermique pour garantir l'absence d'organismes pathogènes viables.
- Contrôles pour s'assurer que les résidus de toxines naturelles, y compris l'aflatoxine M1, pesticides, antibiotiques, substances oestrogéniques ou hormonal d'origine naturelle ou synthétique, d'autres médicaments thérapeutiques, et les métaux lourds, ne présentent pas de risque inacceptable pour la santé publique.

The milk and milk products contained in this consignment have been produced under a U.S. safety system that is intended to ensure the safety of these products. Milk and milk products under this U.S. safety system which satisfy public health criteria include:

- Processing to destroy pathogenic organisms, including heat treatment to ensure absence of viable pathogenic organisms.
- Controls to ensure that residues of natural toxins, including Aflatoxin M1, pesticides, antibiotics, estrogenic

or hormonal substances of a natural or synthetic origin, other therapeutic drugs, and heavy metals do not present unacceptable risk to public health.

5. Les données issues du programme de conformité de l'U.S. Food and Drug Administration "éléments toxiques dans l'alimentation et la vaisselle de table, et les radionucléides dans les aliments - Importation et domestique," ainsi que de l'étude «Total Diet Study» démontrent que le lait et les produits laitiers ne dépassent pas les limites usuelles de seuil acceptable de radionucléides.

Data derived from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration compliance program, "Toxic Elements in Food and Foodware, and Radionuclides in Food - Import and Domestic," and the FDA "Total Diet Study" demonstrate that milk and milk products customarily do not exceed acceptable threshold limits of radionuclides.

6. Les Etats-Unis a mis en place un système d'évaluation des risques et de gestion ainsi que d'un plan de surveillance pour la détection rapide et la prévention de la contamination par les PCB et les dioxines qui démontrent le lait et les produits laitiers ne dépassent pas les limites usuelles du seuil acceptable de PCB ou les dioxines.

The United States has put in place a system for risk assessment and management as well as a monitoring plan for the rapid detection and prevention of contamination from PCBs and dioxins, and data from these programs demonstrate that milk and milk products customarily do not exceed acceptable threshold limits of PCBs or dioxins.

Fait à..... Le.....

Done..... On.....

(Place)

(Date)

Signature du vétérinaire officiel / Signature of Certifying Official

- 
- 1) *L'agent certificateur sera de timbre du certificat avec un sceau soulevées et signe dans une encre colorée.*
  - 1) *The certifying official will stamp the certificate with a raised seal and sign in a colored ink.*
  - 2) *Ce présent certificat doit accompagner une analyse bactérienne par le laboratoire accrédité, dûment signé en conformité avec les normes sanitaires en vigueur.*
  - 2) *This present certificate must accompany a bacterial analysis from the accredited laboratory duly signed in conformity with health standards in force.*

**Model Certificate # 2:** Sanitary certificate related to the import of ovine and/or caprine breeding animals to Tunisia from the United States of America

**(Informal translation from French by AgTunis)**

Exporting country: United States of America.... Central competent authorities:.....  
 Veterinarian service:.....

- I. **Number of animals:**
- II. **Identification of animals**

Official brand (no.)	Number of the livestock	Species	Sex	Breed	Date of birth

**III Origin and destination of animals**

Name and address of the Exporter .....  
 Place of expedition .....  
 Name and address of the consignee:.....  
 Means of transportation: airplane / truck / railcar / boat (Cross off the useless mention and indicate of flight number, registration number or container reference):.....

**IV. Certificate of origin**

I undersigned, official veterinarian, guarantee that animals described above were born and raised in the United States of America.

**I. Sanitary certificate**

I undersigned, official veterinarian, certify the following:

A/ Country of origin

- The country or the zone of origin is free from diseases of the former list A specific to ovine and caprine species
- The United States of America has a sanitary surveillance system and a continuous monitoring of the bluetongue disease according to provisions of the article 2.2.13.1 of the chapter 2.2.13 and appendix 3.8.10 - edition 2007 of the Terrestrial Animal Health code of the OIE;
- The United States of America has a sanitary surveillance system and a continuous monitoring of the Scrapie the disease according to provisions of the article 2.4.8.2 of the chapter 2.4.8 - 2007 of the Terrestrial Animal Health code of the OIE;

- In United States of America the use of proteins of mammals to feed ruminants is forbidden;
- The United States of America have a system of recording and identification of the small ruminants allowing their traceability.

B/ Herds of origin

Animals come from herds

- Officially free of brucellosis
- In which no case of scrapie was observed
- In which the contagious agalactia, the contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, the caprine arthritis / encephalitis, the chlamydiosis and the disease of Maedi-Visna was not observed since 3 years at least.

C/ Animals

- Were born after the ban to feed the ruminants by proteins of mammals
- Are not to be eliminated within the framework of a program of fight against a contagious or infectious disease of the ovine and/or caprine species;
- Presented on the day of their shipment no sign of disease.
- That animals were maintained since their birth, or at least during 60 days having preceded their shipment, in a bluetongue free country or zone, **or**
- That they were maintained, at least during the last 28 days, in a bluetongue free country or zone, then, while kept in a bluetongue free country or zone until loading, they were subjected to a serological test to detect bluetongue specific antibodies. The test should be conducted according to standards listed in the terrestrial Manuel and show a negative result, **or**
- That they were maintained, at least during the last 7 days, in bluetongue free country or zone, then, while kept in a bluetongue free the country or the zone until loading, that they were subjected to a test of identification of the etiological agent whose result turned out negative and which was realized according to the standards fixed in terrestrial Manual.

D/ Laboratory testing and treatments

- During the thirty days preceding the boarding, animals were subject to a preventive treatment against endoparasites and ectoparasites by means of products approved by the proper authorities of United States of America:

- a) Internal on the date of..... By means of: .....
- b) External on the date of..... By means of: .....

Animals were subjected in thirty days precedent the boarding to blood sampling for the research for the following diseases with negative results:

- Brucellosis (EAT)
- Chlamydiosis (Fixation of the complement)
- Maedi-visna (AGID ou ELISA);
- Arthritis/encephalitis (serological test)
- Bluetongue

The bulletins of analysis of laboratory mentioning listed examinations must be joined to the present certificate

E/ Transport

- During the transport complying with guidelines described to appendices 3.7.2., 3.7.3 and 3.7.4 - edition 2007 of the Terrestrial Animal Health code of the OIE animals were not in touch with the other animals of lower sanitary status.
- Loading of animals was made in vehicles or containers cleaned and disinfected beforehand by means of disinfectants approved by the proper authorities of United States of America.

Certificate issued on .....

**Model Certificate # 3: VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE  
FOR EXPORT OF SHEEP FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
INTO THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA**

**I. IDENTIFICATION**

**RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY:** United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

**COMPETENT AUTHORITY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS)

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNOR:**

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**NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE:**

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**IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS TO BE EXPORTED**

No.	Breed	Sex	Age (months)	Identification (ear tag, tattoo, micro-chip, RFID)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

If more than 5 animals are shipped, a separate table is made, signed by the USDA accredited veterinarian and becomes a part of this certificate.

**II. ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATIONS:**

I, the undersigned USDA accredited veterinarian, certify to the following statements.

1. The United States is free of foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, sheep and goat pox, peste des petits ruminants and contagious caprine pleuropneumonia.
1. The animals were isolated for at least 21 days prior to their movement for export.

1. The animals were inspected within 21 days prior to export and found to be free from clinical evidence of communicable diseases, including anthrax.

### III. TEST REQUIREMENTS:

The animal(s) were tested with negative results, within 21 days of export, as follows.

1. Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus* and *B. Mellitensis*): Standard plate test at 1:50 dilution or any other approved serological test. Test date(s) \_\_\_\_\_
1. Tuberculosis: Intradermal test using bovine PPD tuberculin. Test date(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### IV. OTHER VETERINARY TREATMENTS AND INSPECTIONS

Within 15 days prior to export and during quarantine, the animals were inspected, found free of external parasites and treated. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of product: \_\_\_\_\_

The animals will receive veterinary inspection, within 24 hours of export, and found free of evidence of communicable disease. This inspection is required by the US Code of Federal Regulations and will be verified by completion and endorsement of a USDA APHIS VS Form 17-37.

### V. ENDORSEMENT (provided printed name and date of issue or endorsement)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Issuing USDA accredited veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Endorsing Federal Veterinary Medical Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Issuing USDA accredited veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Endorsing Federal Veterinary Medical Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Model Certificate # 4: Sanitary Certificate for the import of frozen bovine semen to Tunisia from the United States of America**

(Translated from French by AgTunis)

Exporting Country:.....  
Ministry of:.....  
Service:.....  
Department or District:.....

**Information concerning the donor animal**

Species:.....  
Breed:.....  
Name:.....  
Date of Birth:.....  
Place of Birth:.....  
Registration in the Genealogical Book:.....  
Date of approval of animal for Artificial Insemination:.....

**Information concerning the semen**

Date of Collection:.....  
Quantity and conditioning of the exported semen:.....  
.....

**Origin of the Semen**

Name and Address of the Exporter (semen collection center).....  
.....  
.....

**Destination of Semen**

Name and Address of the consignee.....  
.....  
Type and Identification of the Mean of Transport used.....  
.....

**Sanitary Information**

The undersigned official veterinarian certifies that the bovine semen responds to the following sanitary conditions:

**cerning the country of origin:**

- The country or the zone is free from any illnesses listed in the list A of O.I.E. for the bovine species. ng is defined as detailed in chapter 1.3.4 of the International Zoosanitary Code.
- untry or the zone is free or has a small incidence of BSE as mentioned in articles 2.3.13.1, 2.3.13.2, 2.3.13.3, 2.3.13.4, and 2.3.13.5 of the International Zoosanitary Code. (2001 edition).
- untry or the zone has an active surveillance program that requires, inter alia, submitting slaughtered or dead animals to a post-mortem BSE detection testing.

**imals Providing Semen:**

The semen must come from donors that:

- 3.
- ed in a country or a zone free from any illnesses listed in the list A of O.I.E., at least during three months preceding the semen collection.
- resent any clinical signs of any illnesses listed in the list A of O.I.E., at the day of the semen collection, nor during the following 30 days.
- ed in a country or a zone free from foot and mouth disease and where vaccination did not take place.
- : always bred in a country free from Bluetongue **or:**
  - (\*) Were bred in a zone free from Bluetongue, at least during 100 days before the beginning of the semen collection operation and after it had started, **and** were tested, with negative results, to a series of tests on specific antibodies of the Bluetongue's virus group, such as the competitive ELISA methods or the agar gel immuno-diffusion (AGID) test, between 28 and 60 days after the last semen collection done for the considered expedition.

**Semen Collection Center**

The semen collection center, where the semen was collected, manipulated and stocked has a sanitary agreement for exporting, as mentioned in chapter 3.2.1 of the O.I.E. International Zoosanitary Code.

Official stamp:

(\*): Cross out as appropriate

Done at..... on.....  
 Issuing authorized veterinarian  
 (Name and Address).....  
 .....  
 Signature:.....

**Model Certificate # 5: Sanitary Certificate for the import to Tunisia of Heifers/bull calves from United States of America**

**VETERINARY HEALTH CERTIFICATE / CERTIFICAT SANITARE  
 EXPORT OF HEIFERS TO TUNISIA / EXPORTATION DE GENISSES VERS LA TUNISIE  
 SECTION 1 - ORIGIN OF HEIFERS / OR/GINE DES GENISSES**

Name of Exporter/Nom de l'exportateur:  
 Address/Adresse: .....  
 Name of Importer/Nom de l'importateur:  
 .....  
 Address/Adresse: :

Farm of Origin of Animals / Lieu d'origine des animaux:.....  
 Date and Place of Embarkation/ Date et lieu d'embarquement:.....  
 Type and identification of Transport/ Nature et identification des moyens de transport:.....

**:SECTION 2 - HEALTH CONDITIONS/DISPOSITIONS SANITAIRES**

I, the undersigned official veterinarian duly authorized by the Government of USA, hereby certify that after due enquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the animals described below comply with the following requirements. / Je, soussigné, vétérinaire officiel dûment autorisé par le gouvernement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, certifie et après enquête, qu'au meilleur de ma connaissance, les animaux décrits ci-après répondent les exigences suivantes:

- Country of origin / Pays d'origine:**  
 The USA has mandatory national cattle identification, recording and circulation program for cattle that Permit traceability of cattle since birth to slaughter or death.

Les USA dispose d'un système national officiel d'identification, d'enregistrement et de circulation des bovins permettant leur traçabilité depuis leur naissance jusqu'à leur abattage ou leur mort.

the USA has a TSE surveillance and monitoring program that meets the specifications described in the standard of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Les USA dispose d'un programme de surveillance et de suivi des *encéphalopathies spongiformes subaiguës* transmissibles qui tient compte des indications du code zoosanitaire international de l'OIE.

1.3 In the USA, it is prohibited to feed ruminants with meat and bone meal and greaves from ruminant Origin.

Aux USA, il y a une interdiction de nourrir les ruminants avec des farines de viande, d'os et de cretons de ruminants.

the USA a risk assessment, as described in the standard of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, has been

conducted and it has been demonstrated that appropriate measures have been taken to manage any risk identified.

Aux USA une appréciation du risque telle décrite au code zoosanitaire international a été conduite et il a été démontré que les mesures appropriées ont été prises pour gérer tout risque éventuellement identifié.

## 2. **Zone of origin / Zone d'origine:**

Heifers do not originate from zones where there is a high rate of BSE infection.

Les génisses ne proviennent pas de zones à forte incidence de l'infection par l'ESB.

Heifers originate from zones [according to the Zoning defined in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code] free for one year at least from the OIE list A diseases of cattle or susceptible to contaminate them, and these zones are not subject of a suspension or a any limitation for sanitary reasons related to diseases affecting the cattle according to the USA legislation.

Les génisses proviennent de zones (telles que décrit dans le Code Zoosanitaire International de l'OIE) indemnes depuis un an au moins des maladies de l'ancienne liste A de l'OIE propres aux bovins ou susceptibles de les contaminer et que ces zones ne font pas l'objet d'une interdiction ou d'une restriction quelconque pour des raisons liées à des maladies affectant les bovins conformément à la législation des USA en vigueur.

## 3. **Premises of origin / Des cheptels d'origine:**

Heifers originate from premises where no clinical or infection case due to BSE agent where officially detected. Les génisses proviennent de cheptels où aucun cas d'ESB au d'infection par l'agent de l'ESB n'a été détecté officiellement.

Heifers originate from premises considered officially free of contagious diseases and notably of:

Les génisses proviennent de cheptels reconnus officiellement indemnes de maladies contagieuses et notamment de :

- tuberculosis [according to the capacities of the Code Zoosanitaire International of the OIE edition]:

tuberculose [conformément aux dispositions du Code Zoosanitaire International de l'OIE édition]:

- brucellosis [according to the capacities of the Code Zoosanitaire International of OIE edition]:

brucellose [conformément aux dispositions du Code Zoosanitaire International de l'OIE édition];

- The heifers originate from premises considered free of contagious diseases and notably of:

Les génisses proviennent de cheptels reconnus officiellement indemnes de maladies contagieuses et notamment de :

- enzootic bovine leucosis for at least three (3) years (according to absence of clinical sign);

leucose bovine enzootique depuis au moins trois (3) ans (selon l'absence de signe clinique);

- infectious bovine rhinotracheitis for at least one (1) year (according to absence of clinical sign);

de rhinotracheïte infectieuse bovine depuis au moins un (1) an (selon l'absence de signe clinique).

Heifers originate from premises where no clinical case of the hereafter diseases was shown:

Les génisses proviennent de cheptels dans lesquels aucun cas clinique des maladies suivantes n'a été constaté:

- bovine spongiform encephalopathy forever;

encephalopathie spongiforme bovine depuis toujours;

- paratuberculosis for at least 5 years;

paratuberculose depuis au moins 5 ans;

anthrax, rabies, leptospirosis, bovine genital campylobacteriosis, malignant catarrhal fever, or scabies for one year at least.

de charbon bactérien, de rage, de leptospiroses, de campylobactériose génitale bovine, de coryza gangreneux et de gales depuis un an au moins.

## 4. **Heifers / Des Génisses:**

4.1 were born after July 1<sup>st</sup> 2001 2<sup>nd</sup> rose in USA;

sont nées après Le 1er juillet 2001 et sont élevées aux USA;

do not originate from zones other than that described in Section 2, paragraph 2, of this certificate;

ne proviennent pas de zones autres que celles mentionnées Section 2, paragraphe 2, de ce présent certificat:

ive not been eliminated under a national, regional or farm of origin program or campaign for eradication of infectious or parasitic diseases;

n'ont pas fait et ne font pas l'objet d'une élimination sanitaire dans le cadre d'une campagne ou d'un programme de lutte contre les maladies infectieuses ou parasitaires au niveau national, régional ou à l'échelle du cheptel d'origine ;

l not receive thyreostatics, estrogens, androgens or gestagens drugs in purposes of fattening.

N'ont pas reçu de substances thyrostatiques, oestrogènes, androgènes ou gestagènes à des fins d'engraissement.

ere subjected within 30 days preceding loading to treatment against internal and external parasites with products approved in the USA. The exported animals are free from ticks.

ont été soumis dans les 30 jours précédents l'embarquement à un traitement contre les parasites internes et externes approuvé au USA. Les animaux exportés sont sans tiques.

**a. interna! parasites/parasites internes**

Date(s): -----Products/Produits:-----

**a. external parasites/parasites externes**

Date(s): -----Products/Produits:-----

**a. acaricid/ acaricide**

Date(s): -----Products/Produits:-----

4.6 At the moment of departure, exported animals were found free of active ringworm.

Au moment du départ, les animaux exportés ont été trouvés indemne de teigne active.

**1. Tests / Epreuves:**

From the first test, heifers destined to Tunisia have been isolated from other animals not of equivalent status.

Depuis le premier test, les génisses destinées à la Tunisie ont été isolées des autres animaux dont le statut sanitaire n'est pas équivalent.

5.1 The heifers were negative to / Les génisses ont réagi négativement à la:

enzootic bovine leucosis within ninety (90) days prior to export - two (2) ELISA tests, at least thirty (30) apart. The first test can be performed on the farm of origin and the second test thirty (30) days prior to export.

leucose enzootique bovine dans les quatre-vingt dix (90) jours avant l'exportation - deux épreuves ELISA, à au moins trente (30) jours d'intervalle. Le premier test pouvant être effectué à la ferme d'origine et le deuxième test durant les trente (30) jours précédant l'exportation.

**Model Certificate # 6: Sanitary Certificate for importing of Beef-frozen meat to Tunisia from the United States of America**

Certificate No. ....

Shipper Country: United States of America (USA)

Competent Authority: .....

**I. Meat Identification**

Species: .....

Production date: .....

and conservation temperature: .....

caging: .....

number of parcels: .....

weight: .....

weight: .....

**I. Origin of Meat**

Number(s) of Sanitary Agreement(s) from the Original Establishment(s): .....

Slaughterhouse(s): .....

Cutting workshop(s): .....

Workshop: .....

Cold storage plant: .....

**I. Destination of Meat**

Meats are expedited from: .....

To: .....

by the following means of transport: plane / truck / boat (Cross off the useless mention and indicate No. of flight, registration, or container).....

.....

Certificate No. ....

Name and address of expeditor: .....

.....

Name and address of addressee: .....

.....

**I. Attestation of origin**

The undersigned official veterinary, certifies that described above meats originate from cattle which individual identification numbers appear to the appendix of the present sanitary certificate, duly signed and sealed by my care. All these cattle were born and raised in United States of America.

**I. Sanitary Attestation**

The undersigned official veterinary, certifies the following:

**A/ Country**

- The country or the area where the cattle are originated from are free of Foot and Mouth Disease, bovine plague, contagious bovine peripneumonie, Rift Valley fever, Vesicular Stomatitis;
- The animals from which the meats originated from, are identified using a permanent identification system allowing to find their herd of origin;

- The USA dispose of an effective system of surveillance and follow-up of the BSE that includes in particular:
  - The registration of BSE in the list of diseases with a compulsory declaration, the realization of a clinical investigation and the analysis of the animals' encephalon that are clinically suspect after their slaughter or their death, followed by the destruction of the carcasses of the affected cattle;
  - The statutory ban on the use of meat and bone flour for cattle food;
  - The automatic withdrawal and the destruction of materials at risk specified according to the regulations in force in the USA.
  - The recording of the number of examinations practiced and the confirmed cases.

**B/ Cattle**

- The cattle that produce meats were born after the coming into force of the ban to feed the ruminants with meat and bone flour or cretons originated from ruminants;
- The cattle from which originated meats intended for export were not stunned, before their slaughter, by means of a machine injecting air or a compressed

Certificate No. ....

gas in their cranium, nor were subjected to the jonchage (laceration of the central nerve tissues, after intoxication, by means of a long instrument in the form of stalk introduces into the cranial cavity);

- The cattle underwent a favorable veterinarian ante and postmortem inspection according to the USA requirements;
- The cattle are not the object of slaughter within the framework of a program of eradication prescribed by the law on the health of animals;
- The cattle were slaughtered in a slaughterhouse approved by U.S. authorities for the export of meat products.

**C/ Meats**

Fresh meats intended for export:

- They originate from 30-month-old animals;
- Do not contain either material encephalic or ocular, or spinal cord, or meat mechanically separated from the skull or from the spine and all these substances were removed in satisfactory sanitary conditions;
- Were prepared in sanitary conditions such as indicated in chapters 56 - 95 of the section VIII of the recommended international code of usage in hygiene matters for fresh meat, CAC / RCP 11 - 1976 of the codex alimentarius, Vol. 10 rev. 1 - 1993;
- Do not contain, according to the regulations in force and to the results of the national plan of research for residues, residues of substances with estrogen action or thyreostatic, of antibiotics, antimony, arsenic, pesticides or other harmful substances to make the consumption of meat dangerous or harmful to human health;
- To meet current international microbiological criteria;
- They were frozen at a minimum temperature of -18°C in a workshop agreed by the authorities;
- They are healthy and appropriate for the human consumption.

**I. Certificate of no-contamination by radioactivity**

The U.S. authorities certify that the products are exempt from harmful rates of radioactivity and are recognized fit for human consumption without restriction.

**I. Certificate of no-contamination by dioxin**

According to the data of the national surveillance program of chemical residues, meats that are the object of the present sanitary certificate are not suspected of contamination by dioxin and the rate does not thus exceed the threshold of action established by the authorities. Meats that do not result from animals coming from exploitations which are the object of conservation measures (put under sequestration) by the veterinarian services, such as foreseen by the national surveillance program of

Certificate No. ....

chemical residues because of the suspicion of use of cattle feed susceptible to be contaminated by dioxin.

Done at ..... on .....

Official stamp (1)

.....  
Name in capital letters, title and quality of official veterinary

.....  
Signature of official veterinary (1)

(1) The official stamp and signature of official veterinary have to be apposed in a different color mentioned in the certificate

**Appendix: identification of animals**

Identification Number	Breed	Sex	Age	Description

Done at ..... on .....

Official stamp (1)

.....  
Name in capital letters, title and quality of official veterinary

.....  
Signature of official veterinary (1)

the official stamp and signature of official veterinary have to be apposed in a different color mentioned in the certificate

**Model Certificate # 7: Sanitary Certificate for importing breeding rabbits from United States of America to Tunisia**  
(Translated from French by AgTunis)

I. **Number of animals:**

.....

I. **Animals identification:**



.....  
(Official veterinary signature)

Official Stamp

.....  
(Name in capital letters, qualification and title of the signatory)