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Draft Customs Union Amendments to Veterinary Requirements

Report Categories:
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety
FAIRS Subject Report
Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:
The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), the regulatory body of the Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU), published a new draft document amending the CU veterinary requirements. In particular, the document specifies the requirements for botulinum toxin in feeds, and adds a new chapter 42 with requirements for the import of laboratory animals. There is a 60-day EEC public comment period, starting August 6, 2014, and ending October 6, 2014. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov).

As of the date of publication of this report, FAS/Moscow does not believe this measure has been notified to the World Trade Organization.

General Information
The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which is the regulatory body of the Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU), published the following draft document on its website:

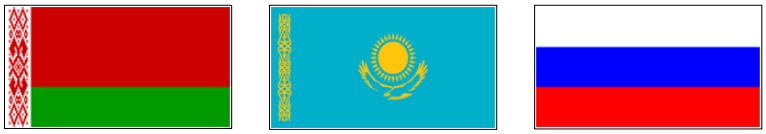
- On Amending Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)

In particular, the document specifies the requirements for botulinum toxin in feeds, and adds a new chapter 42 with requirements for the import of laboratory animals.

An unofficial English translation of the above-referenced draft document can be found below. There is a 60-day EEC public comment period, starting August 6, 2014, and ending October 6, 2014. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov). USDA, in turn, will share collected comments/concerns with the Eurasian Economic Commission.

As of the date of publication of this report, FAS/Moscow does not believe this measure has been notified to the World Trade Organization.

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:



EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION
COLLEGIUM

D E C I S I O N

“ ” 20 **No.**

On Amending Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)

In accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement on the Eurasian Economic Commission of November 18, 2011, and Article 7 of the Customs Union Agreement on Veterinary and Sanitary Measures of December 11, 2009, the Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Commission **has resolved:**

1. To amend the Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance), approved by Decision of the Customs Union Commission No. 317 of June 18, 2010, in accordance with the attachment.

2. The present Decision shall take effect after 30 calendar days from its official publication.

Chairman of the Collegium
of the Eurasian Economic Commission V. Khristenko

ATTACHMENT
to Decision of the Collegium
of the Eurasian Economic Commission
of ___ _____, 2013, No. ____

AMENDMENTS
to the Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance)

1. Chapter 35 after the words "botulinum toxin" shall be supplemented with the words "(for canned feeds with over 14% of moisture)".

2. To supplement with Chapter 42 as follows:

"**Chapter 42. Veterinary and sanitary requirements for the import in the Customs territory of the Customs Union and (or) transfer between the Parties of laboratory animals (mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits), as well as their embryos, embryos of birds, semen and cell cultures**

It is allowed to import laboratory animals (mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits), as well as their embryos, embryos of birds, semen and cell cultures into the customs territory of the Customs Union and (or) transfer them between the Parties.

Laboratory animals who are donors of imported semen and embryos must be clinically healthy; they must not be vaccinated against human or animal diseases, received from animals caught in the wild, and must originate from a vivarium which is officially free from contagious diseases (including on the day of the semen and embryos collection).

The health status of an animals' colony colonies of animals who are donors of semen and embryos is determined as gnotobiotes (free from pathogenic and non-pathogenic microflora) or free from pathogenic microflora (viruses, bacteria, parasites, helminths) – SPF-category.

The imported animals, semen, and embryos are destined exclusively for use in laboratory purposes and (or) scientific purposes.

The imported animals, as well as semen and embryos received from donor-animals must be of a known genetic profile and breed, and must not be transgenic (including genetically modified or genetically engineered) or cloned animals which were subjected to a genetic modification of their nuclear or mitochondrial genomes by a deliberate human intervention.

Cell cultures shall be imported in the territory of the Customs Union in accordance with the legislation of the Customs Union. At the same time it should be indicated that the competent authorities have provided their official confirmation that the imported shipment of cell cultures is free from infectious agents.

The data on laboratory testing which confirms the known status of an animals' colony or animals who were donors of semen and embryos that are to be imported, shall comply with the rules and terms recommended by the OIE Code.

Semen and embryos should not contain pathogenic or toxicogenic microorganisms.

Semen and embryos shall be collected, stored, and transported in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE Code.

Transport cages shall be disinfected and shall comply with the international standards and hygienic norms."

END UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION.