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POLICY

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Mexico

Post: Monterrey ATO

Facilitating Red Meat Trade and Avoiding Costly Delays

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Agriculture in the Economy

Agriculture in the News

Policy and Program Announcements

Promotion Opportunities

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Report Highlights:

In order to avoid delays that add costs to U.S. shipments containing meat and meat products at the United States and Mexican border, freight forwarders and customs agents are recommending that exporters provide complete documentation, including commercial invoices, prior to when products arrive at their establishments. Without the invoices and all other documents, freight forwarders and agents are not capable of requesting product inspection by Mexican officials.

General Information:

The Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City as well as the Agricultural Trade Office at the U.S. Consulate in Monterrey have been informed by Mexican industry and have heard from government officials that costly delays are occurring and preventing timely exports of U.S. red meats to Mexico. In order to facilitate trade, U.S. exporters are encouraged to provide customs agents, freight forwarders or importers with commercial invoices and all other required documents prior to loads reaching the United States and Mexican border.

Mexican meat industry members and customs brokers have reported that without complete shipment documentation; especially, commercial invoices, for imported U.S.-origin meat and meat products, delays are a certainty that will result in additional costs to importers and end-users/consumers. Mexican border officials require that customs brokers present commercial invoices as part of the document dossier that accompanies shipments to Mexico. Mexican customs brokers responsible for clearing shipments have noted that meat shipments frequently arrive at their facilities without commercial invoices. As such, these shipments cannot be presented for official Mexican government inspection. This results in shipments being held at verification and inspection facilities for longer periods of time.

Freight forwarders and Mexican customs brokers are reaching out to their customers and have recommended that meat exporters send a copy of the commercial invoice, via email or fax, prior to when the product arrives at their facility. With this information, Mexican customs brokers can prepare the corresponding import permit documentation (*pedimento*) or, official Mexican entry form and be able to pay SENASICA inspection fees and any applicable import tariffs.

Note: The above information applies to all agricultural products subject to SENASICA inspection. Moreover, a commercial invoice is required to prepare any *pedimento*, be it for agricultural or non-agricultural products.

Author Defined:**For More Information**

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX2090	Mexican Pork Sector Crosses the Great Wall of China	11/30/2012
MX2089	Tariff Reduction Upsets Domestic Industry	11/30/2012
MX2087	Poultry and Egg Prices Trade Snapshot	11/29/2012
MX2065	2012 Mexican Livestock and Products Annual	9/9/2012
MX2061	Mexico Declares itself free of CSF and Avian Salmonella	8/14/2012

MX2060	New Options to Obtain SENASICA Import-Export Documents	8/14/2012
MX2059	Mexico Announces Import Quotas for U.S. Eggs	8/14/2012
MX2046	Economia Opens 221K Metric Ton Egg Quota Due to Market Speculation	7/10/2012
MX2044	Avian Influenza Hits More Farms in Jalisco	7/5/2012
MX2043	Emergency Management System Activated to Combat Avian Influenza	7/2/2012
MX2040	High Path Avian Influenza Outbreak in Jalisco	6/26/2012
MX2503	Exporting to Mexico – Managing Border Entry Issues	3/22/2012
MX2016	2012 Livestock and Products Semi-Annual	3/21/2012
MX2012	2012 Poultry and Poultry Products Semi-Annual	3/20/2012
MX2004	Mexico Publishes Preliminary Determination on U.S. CLQs	1/20/2012
MX1092	New Meat and Poultry Letterhead Certificates Required	12/6/2011

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.