

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Jordan

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

Approved By:

Mariano J. Beillard

Prepared By:

Mohamed Khraishy and Mariano J. Beillard

Report Highlights:

Jordan requires commercial shipping invoices for U.S. food and agricultural product shipments. All food and agricultural product imports are required to conform to the Codex *alimentarius*-based Jordan Institute of Standards and Meteorology Organization (JISMO) standards. Jordan's Customs Authority reserves the right to investigate documentation at its discretion. Jordan will reject shipments involving fraudulent documentation and certifications.

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

Table 1: List of Specified Export Certificates Required by Jordan

Product(s)	Certificate Title	Verification Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Powder Milk (If for direct consumption, no import license is required)	Country of Origin Certificate (COOC).	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA, MoA
	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) Veterinary Animal Health Certificate (VAHC).	USDA-FSIS or APHIS	Human Health	JFDA
	Fitness for Human Consumption Certificate (FHCC).	FDA or USDA-FSIS	Human Health	JFDA
	Product Validity for Consumption in the Country of Origin (PVCCOOC).	FDA or USDA-FSIS	Human Health	JFDA
Powder Milk (Industrial use)	Same requirements as above; requires a MoA import license in advance.			
Flavored Milk	COOC, VAHC, FHCC, PVCCOOC, Approved Flavor and/or Coloring Material.	FDA or USDA-FSIS	Human Health	JFDA, CA
Bovine Livestock	COOC, SPS	USDA APHIS	Animal Health	MoA
Bovine Meat	COOC	U.S. Government Or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA
	SPS-VAHC	USDA-FSIS	Free from infectious and contagious diseases (food safety)	MoA
	Halal Certificate (HC)	Supplier/Manufacturer	Verifies that slaughter conforms to Islamic practices (food quality and consumer protection)	MoA
Processed Meat	COOC	U.S. Government Or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	MoA, JFDA, CA
	SPS-VAHC	USDA-FSIS	Free from infectious and contagious diseases (Food safety)	MoA
	HC	Supplier/Manufacturer	Verifies that slaughter conforms to Islamic practices (food quality and consumer protection)	MoA
Poultry Meat	COOC	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA

	HC	Supplier/ Manufacturer	Verifies that slaughter conforms to Islamic practices (food quality and consumer protection)	MoA
	VAHC	FSIS		MoA
Fish and Seafood (Frozen and or Processed)	COOC	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA
	VAHC	Department of Commerce	Health, Risk Control	MoA
Cheese	COOC	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA
	SPS-VAHC	USDA-APHIS	Free from infectious and contagious diseases (food safety)	MoA, JFDA
	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)-only for initial shipments.	Accredited by FDA, USDA-APHIS	Food Quality	JFDA
Honey	COOC	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA
	Residues-Free Certificate	FDA, USDA-APHIS	Food Safety	MoA, JFDA
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	COOC	U.S. Government or Chamber of Commerce	Custom Valuation, Health, Risk Control	CA
	Quarantine Pest-Free SPS Certificate	USDA-APHIS	Plant Health	MoA

NOTE: Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Jordan Institute of Standards and Metrology Organization (JISMO), Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA), Customs Authority (CA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Import Requirements: The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan requires commercial shipping invoices for U.S. food and agricultural product shipments. Jordan similarly requires this documentation for U.S.-origin consignments arriving via third countries in sealed shipping containers. Jordan imposes additional document requirements on containerized shipments previously unsealed in third countries.

The [Jordan Institute of Standards and Meteorology Organization](#) (JISMO) is responsible for the development of standards and ensuring conformity with existing product standards. It maintains and supervises the national meteorology system, as well as grants Jordanian Quality Marks (voluntary) and accredits testing and calibration laboratories. Food and agricultural products issues are delegated to the Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA).

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

As per Article 31) of the Customs Law of 1998 and its amendments, all customs declarations must include the following:

- A maritime or airway bill of lading.
- A commercial invoice indicating the value, weight, and freight and insurance charges. All invoices require Jordanian diplomatic/consular intervention. In the absence of Jordanian diplomatic/consular intervention, Jordan's Customs Director is empowered to accept the country of export's chamber of commerce certification.
- A notarized certificate of origin issued by the competent authority in the export country.
- A value declaration form for shipments exceeding Jordanian dinars (JOD) 2,000. (1 JOD = ~\$1.40).

Jordanian customs reserves the right to request additional documentation. FAS Amman has been advised that the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) by law oversees all unprocessed agricultural products.

Processed food products are however the responsibility of the Jordan Food and Drug Administration. A U.S. Department of Agriculture – Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) certificate is required for all meat products (including poultry products) imports. Jordan recognizes the FSIS certificate as meeting its veterinary and sanitary certification requirements.

Jordan requires that a halal certificate accompany all meat imports. The halal certificate must indicate that the slaughter process conforms to Islamic practices.

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

U.S.-origin food consignments containing raw plant material must be accompanied by:

- A sanitary and phyto-sanitary certificate issued by the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).
- A vessel certificate of fitness and a stowage examination certificate.

U.S.-origin vegetable oil shipments must be accompanied by certificates attesting to:

- The type of metal used in the tank and ancillary equipments' construction, as well as the type of tank coating (must be approved for contact with food) utilized.
- The three previous cargoes transported in the tank.

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for approving the entry of beef and beef products. Entry is authorized if products meet the JISMO health standard. The private sector is only authorized to import rice, sugar, and wheat that meet Jordanian quality standards. Alcoholic beverage imports are permissible, but elevated tariffs limit imports.

The Ministry of Agriculture issues import licenses for beef, fruits, fish, and vegetables and other food and agricultural products such as powdered milk. Licenses are time sensitive; normally issued for a period of three months unless otherwise specified. Import licenses for shipments arriving from a third country are valid for two months; chilled beef import licenses are however only valid for one month.

Not all food and agricultural products require an import license.

Jordan does not require original documents at the time of entry. It will accept a photocopy or a fax copy for perishable items (e.g., beef and fruit consignments). Jordan's Customs Authority will release shipments under a bond until original documents are submitted. Importers are permitted to utilize the same import license until it either expires or the quantity authorized is filled.

Jordan recognizes U.S. state-issued export certificates as proof of compliance; however, it also accepts supplier and manufacturer export declarations. Jordan's Customs Authority nonetheless reserves the right to investigate documentation at its discretion. Jordan will reject shipments involving fraudulent documentation and certifications.

Section V. Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

Jordan launched its [Customs Integrated Tariff System](#) (CITS) in August 2005. The system allows importers to access import requirements, as well as evaluate tariff and trade agreement information. Information is provided in both Arabic and English.

All food and agricultural product imports are required to conform to the [Codex alimentarius-based](#) (Codex) JISMO standards. Private sector importers are authorized to import all food and agricultural products; most products do not require import licenses. Food and agricultural products requiring prior MoA and or Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) authorization include live animals, fresh, chilled and frozen beef, and frozen animal semen. All food and agricultural products are potentially subject to inspection and testing. Virtually all prepared and mixed foods are tested at the border.

Food products at the wholesale and retail levels are inspected by the Jordan Food and Drug Administration. Products that fail to meet technical requirements, or are found unfit for human consumption are removed from distribution channels and destroyed.

Food additives are jointly regulated by the JISMO and JFDA. Jordan maintains lists of approved additives and permissible use levels; Jordan's levels largely conform to Codex. FAS Amman recommends that Jordanian food standards be consulted for additive and concentration use levels prior to product shipment.

The Jordan Institute of Standards and Meteorology Organization sets labeling requirements. Requirements are fairly standard. A statement of ingredients in order of preponderance is however not required. All labels must be in Arabic; alternatively, an Arabic language stick-on label is acceptable. A label should contain:

- Product name
- The manufacturer's name and address
- Net weight
- Fortifying matter (e.g., added vitamins and minerals to powdered milk)
- Lot number and a "use before" or "best by" date

Jordan's labeling requirements do not include Recommended Daily Intake (RDIs) levels. Nutritional labeling nevertheless is mandatory for certain food categories (e.g., infant formula and food for dietary use). Shelf life labeling has been replaced by the "best before" standard. Nonetheless the JISMO interprets "best before" as a product's expiry date; no product is authorized for sale beyond this date.

Jordan will scrutinize product labels at border crossing points. Current legislation holds the importer accountable for product's content as specified on the label. Jordan has been known to reject shipments due to labeling ambiguities and printing errors.

Appendix – Key Contacts and Further Information

USDA\FAS - Office of Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Embassy Amman

P.O. Box 354, Amman, Jordan

Tel: (962-6) 590-6056 · Fax: (962-6) 592-0146 · E-mail: Mohamed.khraishy@fas.usda.gov

Ministry of Agriculture

Veterinary Services Directorate and Plant Protection Directorate

Tel: (962-6) 568-6151 · Fax: (962-6) 568-6310 · Web-site: www.moa.gov.jo

Ministry of Environment

Tel: (962-6) 556-0113 · Fax: (962-6) 556-0288 · Web-site: <http://www.moenv.gov.jo/>

Ministry of Industry and Trade

Tel: (962-6) 560-7191/566-3774 · Fax: (962-6) 560-4691 · Web-site: www.mit.gov.jo

Jordan Institute of Standards and Metrology

Tel: (962-6) 568-0139 · Fax: (962-6) 568-1099 · Web-site: www.jismo.gov.jo

Jordan Food and Drug Directorate

Tel: (962-6) 461-2663 · Fax: (962-6) 461-2663 · Web-site: www.jfda.jo

Jordan Customs Authority

P.O. Box 90, Amman, Jordan

Tel: (962-6) 462-3186/8; 462-4394/6 · Fax: (962-6) 464-7791 · E-mail: Customs@Customs.gov.jo

Web-site: <http://www.customs.gov.jo>

Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority

P.O. Box 2565, Aqaba 77110, Jordan

Tel: (962-6) 3 203 5757/8 · Fax: (962-6) 3 203-0912 · Web-site: <http://www.aqabazone.com/>