

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Norway

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Certification

FAIRS Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

As a member of the EEA, Norway applies EU regulations on export certificates. In addition to certificates required by the EU, Norway applies the same specific sanitary certificate requirements with regard to salmonella for imports of fresh meat, meat preparations and eggs.

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

Being a member of the European Economic Area (EEA), most of the Norwegian food legislation including food safety standards has been fully harmonized with the European Union. The relevant EU

provisions have thus been completely integrated into Norwegian law, following from the EEA framework.

In addition to those certificates required by the EU, Norway also has specific salmonella certificate and testing requirements for fresh meat, meat preparations or minced meat (with the exception of heat-treated meats) and eggs exported to Norway. These requirements are regulated in Regulation (EC) No 1688/2005. According to EU Decision 2008/752, a declaration on the veterinary certificate for meat products is enough to certify that the salmonella tests have been conducted according to 1688/2005. With regard to eggs and egg products, the specific salmonella requirements only apply to fresh eggs. Heat treated egg products may be imported without salmonella certification. There are, however, no establishments in the US approved for exports of fresh eggs to the EU.

For a list of EU-required export certificates and the products they cover, please refer to the USEU Export Certificate Report available at: <http://useu.usmission.gov/agri>

Most imports of fresh fruit and vegetables must undergo quality inspections and in certain cases sanitary health inspections. The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (Mattilsynet) is the contact for such concerns. In order to import plant products that require sanitary certificates, it is necessary to be registered as an importer. Norway has, for example, introduced specific regulations relating to measures against brown rot (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) in potatoes.

Norwegian rules for plant protection (Regulation No 1333 from 2000) stipulate that the plant health authority in the exporting country should issue an official plant health certificate in accordance with the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP). For travelers, certain exemptions for limited quantities (private consumption) are possible.

Section II. Purpose of Specific Export Certificate(s)

Salmonella Guarantees

The purpose of the salmonella guarantee is to provide consumer protection. In its EEA – respectively EU - accession, Norway, Sweden and Finland received a derogation allowing them to apply stricter salmonella controls than other EEA member countries. These countries were granted additional salmonella guarantees covering trade in fresh meat from bovines and hogs, fresh poultry meat and table eggs, which were extended to minced meat. All consignments containing fresh meat, meat preparations or minced meat (with the exception of heat-treated meats) are subject to salmonella control. These requirements do not apply to imports from Sweden and Finland, since these countries have the same salmonella status as Norway.

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

Salmonella – Meat/Eggs

The specific declaration (attestation) required on the veterinary certificate certifies that the product to be imported into Norway fulfils the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1688/2005, implementing Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards special guarantees concerning salmonella for consignments to Finland and Sweden of certain meat and eggs.

Section IV. Government Certificate's Legal Entry Requirements

A. General requirements as regards health certificates

- Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?

Yes. Normally, Norway does require export certificates to be issued in both the language of the country of origin and in Norwegian. However, for U.S. exporters English language version is deemed satisfactory.

- Can the certificate be applied to multiply shipments?

No. The Certificate follows the individual consignment.

- Will Norway accept a Supplier's or Manufacturer's Export Declaration as proof of compliance regarding salmonella occurrence ?

Yes for meats this can be done. The certificate for eggs must, however, be issued by the competent authority in the U.S.

- Will Norway accept a U.S. State issued export certificate?

Yes, provided that it has been drawn up in accordance with the Model Certificates.

Yes, provided that it includes the specific declaration (attestation) that the product to be imported into Norway fulfils the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1688/2005.

- Will Norway derogate export certificates?

The EU has a bilateral mutual equivalency veterinary trade agreement with the United States facilitating import procedures. Through its EEA affiliation imports to Norway is also simplified. However, the above mentioned salmonella specific certificate requirements must always be respected.

Author Defined:

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