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## Serbia

### Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

### FAIRS Country Report

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**Report Highlights:**

This report provides information on Serbian regulations and standards concerning food, agriculture, agricultural products and foreign trade. It includes information on labeling, packaging, food additives and import procedures. In 2016, Serbia adopted one new law, the Amendments to the Law on Livestock and approximately sixty one by-laws that include different rulebooks and ordinances. This report contains update on the Serbian accession to the European Union (EU), especially in the area of agriculture and rural development that includes Chapter 11, 12 and 13 of the EU acquis (set of laws, regulations and standards). Report also contains update on the accreditation of the Payment Agency as

a pre-condition for use of European Union Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development (IPARD) Funds. The contact lists, including relevant government agencies, have also been updated.

## **Section I. Food Laws:**

### **AUTHOR DISCLAIMER:**

This report was prepared by U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service's Office of Agricultural Affairs in Belgrade for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products to the Serbian market. 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 before any goods are shipped, U.S. exporters verify with the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities. 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.

The responsibilities for food and feed controls in Serbia are distributed amongst the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunication.

### **Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection**

A new coalition government was formed in Serbia on August 9, 2016, four months after early elections held in April of the same year. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection represents the specialized body of the central public administration with governmental jurisdiction in the fields of agriculture, including international and domestic agricultural trade, food processing, food safety, seed registration, fish quotas, rural development, environment, forestry and water management.

In 2014, the Serbian Government adopted a new Agricultural and Rural Development Strategy for the period 2014-2024 (Official Gazette RS 85/14). The strategy, a requisite for receiving EU funding, sets guidelines for adjusting Serbia's agriculture to meet EU and WTO requirements and defines the basic reforms that are needed in the agricultural sector. The strategy aims to proposed reforms that will improve Serbia's business environment and competitiveness, raise living conditions, and introduce greater stability for Serbia's farmers in rural areas. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, Serbia needs to define budgetary incentives and adopt laws and rulebooks that facilitate agricultural development, as well as greater farmer training and exposure to new technologies. In addition to the Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection during 2014 and 2015, prepared two National Development Programs, one for Agriculture and another for Rural Development valid from 2015-2020, with specific measures for implementing Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy. The Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection is still waiting for government adoption of the proposed National Development Programs.

In 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection has completed the explanatory and bilateral screenings with the European Commission (EC) on Chapters 11, 12 and 13. Serbia must secure accreditation of its Payment Agency, as one of EU benchmarks to open the negotiations on Chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development). A functioning Payment Agency is needed to access EU Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance and Rural Development (IPARD) Funds for 2014-2020 valued at EUR 175 million. Completion of the Action Plan by the Ministry of Agriculture (as outlined by the European Commission) for Chapter 11 is the second benchmark and it includes how Serbia will

provide direct payments and state subsidies and manage the functioning of the common market (market intervention, assistance schemes, market standards, organization of food processing associations, trade with third countries, reporting), as well as draft and implement strategies for rural development, quality policy and organic production. The Serbian Ministry of Agriculture hopes to open negotiations on Chapter 11 by mid-2017. The Ministry is still awaiting EC benchmarks for opening the negotiations on Chapter 12 (food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy) and Chapter 13 (Fisheries).

In 2016, the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection/Rural Development Sector agreed on a new proposal with the EC in order to obtain necessary accreditation of the Agriculture Payment Agency as soon as possible. This is a pre-condition for Serbia's use of IPARD Funds (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in Rural Development) set at 175 million euros for a six-year period established in 2016 (2014-2020). The Ministry of Agriculture agreed to reduce the number of measures that will be used through IPARD Funds for Serbia. From the previously agreed four measures: 1) investments in agricultural holdings to restructure and upgrade to the EU standards, 2) investments in processing and marketing of agriculture and fishery products to restructure and upgrade to the EU standards, 3) development and diversification of rural economic activities, and 4) technical assistance programs, Serbia will narrow its choice to the first two measures. In order to receive and distribute EU agriculture and rural development funds, the Serbian Payment Agency must be capable of showing exact procedures and precise statistics for the number of trained staff for every single measure. Due to this, Serbia will try to complete the entire process for measures 1 and 2 over the next several months to obtain accreditation for the Payment Agency and begin using IPARD funds for Serbia. On the other hand, the mechanism for measures 3 and 4 will be set up later by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. The main goal of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection is to offer farmers, access to EU funds, by mid-2017, to improve technologies in the sectors of agricultural production and food processing. In addition, the Ministry would like to adopt all EU standards in order to increase competitiveness in world markets by focusing more on exports of high value processed products, in lieu of bulk commodities.

### **Ministry of Health**

The Ministry of Public Health is responsible for overseeing the production and registration of drugs, food additives, and medical equipment. It is also responsible for public health as it relates to food and contaminants.

### **Ministry of Trade, Telecommunication and Tourism**

Within the Serbian Ministry of Trade, Telecommunication and Tourism, Sector for Market Inspection is responsible for inspecting food quality at the retail level.

### **Serbian Agriculture and Food Laws:**

As part of Serbia's EU integration process, it has adopted many new laws in the area of agriculture and food, mostly in accordance with the *EU Acquis Communautaire* (the Acquis is the body of common rights and obligations that is binding on all the EU member states). Over the last six years Serbia has adopted 34 new laws relating to agriculture and food.

### **The following laws were adopted in 2009 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" 41/09):**

Law on Food Safety

Law on Public Warehouses for Agriculture Products  
Law on Plant Health  
Law on Agriculture and Rural Development  
Law on Livestock  
Law on Pesticides  
Law on Fertilizers  
Law on Brandy and Other Alcoholic Drinks  
Law on Animal Welfare  
Law on Ethanol  
Law on Wine  
Law on Reproductive Material of Forest Trees  
Law on Genetically Modified Organisms  
Amendments to the Agriculture Law  
Law on Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights/UPOV

**The following laws were adopted in 2010 (“Official Gazette RS” 30/10):**

Law on Forests  
Law on Waters  
Law on Beer  
Law on Registration of Crop Varieties  
Law on Organic Production  
Amendments to the Veterinary Law  
Law on Agriculture Extension and Expert Service

**The following law was adopted in 2011 (“Official Gazette RS” 88/11):**

Amendments on Changes to the Law on Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights

**The following laws were adopted in 2012 (“Official Gazette RS” 93/12):**

Amendments on Changes to the Law on Waters  
Amendments on Changes Law on Livestock  
Amendments on Changes Law on Wine

**The following law was adopted in 2013 (“Official Gazette RS” 10/13):**

Law on Incentives for Agriculture Production and Rural Development

**The following laws were adopted in 2014 (“Official Gazette RS” 128/12):**

Law on Pre-Harvest Financing of Agricultural Production (“Official Gazette RS” No. 128/14, becomes effective June 1, 2015)  
Law on Protection and Sustainable Use of the Fishery Fund (“Official Gazette RS” No. 128/14)

**The following laws were adopted in 2015:**

Law on Forests (“Official Gazette RS” No. 89/15)  
Law on Strong Alcoholic Beverages (“Official Gazette RS” No. 92/15)  
Law on Forests (“Official Gazette RS” No. 89/15)

Amendments to Changes Law on Agricultural Land (“Official Gazette RS” No. 112/15)

**The following law was adopted in 2016:**

Amendments to Changes Law on Livestock (“Official Gazette RS” No. 14/16)

Serbia also adopted approximately 61 new rulebooks and ordinances during 2016. The following are of particular interest:

Rulebook on Animal Health Measures for 2016 ("Official Gazette RS" No. 25/16)

Rulebook on State Subsidies for Beehives ("Official Gazette RS", No.15/16)

Rulebook on Organic Production (“Official Gazette RS” No.33/16)

Rulebook on Program Measures for Protection of Plant Health ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 31/16)

Rulebook on Feed Quality ("Official Gazette RS", No.39/16)

Rulebook on Grain, Pasta and Bakery Products Quality ("Official Gazette RS", No.68/16)

Ordinance on Adoption of the IPARD Program for the Republic of Serbia for the period 2014-2020 ("Official Gazette RS", No.30/16)

Ordinance on State Subsidies for Agriculture and Rural Development in 2016 ("Official Gazette RS", No.8/16)

Ordinance on Conversion of State Agriculture Land ("Official Gazette RS", No.93/16)

The following key laws and regulations in Serbia are relevant both for locally processed and imported foods:

*The Law on Food Safety* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09) represents one of the main agricultural laws in Serbia. It governs all aspects of production, circulation, control and consumption of food, general conditions for ensuring safety of food and feed, rights and responsibilities of persons performing food and feed businesses, an early warning system, hygiene and quality of food and feed. The purpose of the law is to ensure a high level of consumer protection while facilitating the efficient functioning of the food trade. The adoption of the law was necessary to harmonize Serbian regulations with EU regulations, in particular Directive 178/2002/EC, and to comply with the World Trade Organization's Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. The main concepts introduced by the Food Safety Law encompass: implementation of the traceability of food; registration of all businesses dealing with food in one unified Central Register; performance of controls in accordance with the risk assessment; establishment of the national reference laboratories; introduction of internal controls in accordance with good manufacturing practices, good hygiene practices or HACCP depending on the type of food business; and, delineation of competences between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health that will enable the control of both quality and safety based on the same food sample and consolidate the inspection of facilities. The law regulates the competency of the Ministry of Agriculture as the central authority and the Ministry of Health as the responsible authority for public health. With this law, management and organization of official controls are in place and there should not be any overlapping and unclear repartitioning of competencies.

The Serbian Ministry of Agriculture is currently working on a draft amendment to the current Food Safety Law that will: further define competences between the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health; create the legal basis for establishing and specifying the obligation of the Expert Council for

Risk Assessment in the field of food safety; create the legal basis for establishing the National Codex Committee in the Ministry of Agriculture; impose new rules for establishing the National Reference Laboratory as an independent body and set its tasks; create a Food Safety Agency, the equivalent of which exists in all EU member states as an independent authority with responsibilities in the field of food safety.

Though the amended Food Safety Law was announced by the Ministry of Agriculture in May 2015, it did not go into effect until the end of 2016 and still lacks full implementation. . Article 18 of the law prescribes the founding of the Directorate for the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for laboratory testing activities and related expert activities but is only partially implemented. NRL should include activities in the fields of food safety, animal health, plant health, agriculture and decorative plant seedlings, residues, milk, and the plant gene bank. The NRL opened in March 2015, but only for phytosanitary testing of seeds. The laboratory for testing milk quality will reportedly begin to operate in 2017 and other activities of the laboratory will soon follow. To date, there is no confirmation that these events will unfold.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Trade (through its veterinary, phytosanitary, agricultural and market inspection) is responsible for food safety and wholesomeness throughout each stage of primary production, processing, transportation, and import/export. The Ministry of Agriculture issues import approvals for foods of animal origin, veterinary drugs, seeds, planting materials and pesticides. For other products, permits are not required. Sanitary Inspection (under the Ministry of Health) is responsible for the safety of novel foods, dietetic products, baby food, diet supplements, additives and drinking water.

The Ministry of Agriculture inspects the quality of food up until the moment the food is distributed to retail shops. Visual checks for products listed in the above-mentioned laws (almost everything that is considered to be a food) and additional safety checks are done, using laboratory testing on basic ingredients. Visual checks involve product identification (origin, type, quantity), determining if labeling and packaging requirements have been met, and checking for the necessary statements containing the importer's name and address, the product's general appearance, taste, flavor, presence of residues, color, structure, checking if the transportation requirements have been met. Specific ordinances define sampling procedures.

Quality control of imported products can be done after the import procedure has been completed and prior to retail distribution on the market. Inspection can be done also after the retail distribution in the store. The quality of individual groups of products is subject to specific rulebooks. The following is a list of the rulebooks that determine quality:

Rulebook on the quality of minced meat, semi-processed and processed meat products ("Official Gazette Republic of Serbia (RS)" No. 31/12, No. 43/13 and No. 94/15);

Rulebook on the quality of milk products and starter cultures ("Official Gazette RS" No.33/10, No.69/10, No. 43/13 and No. 34/14);

Rulebook on the quality of raw milk ("Official Gazette RS" No.21/09)

Rulebook on the quality of honey, honey products and other bee products (“Official Gazette of Serbia and Montenegro (SCG)” No. 45/03, No.43/13 and No.101/15);

Rulebook on the quality and other requirements for beer (“Official Gazette SCG” No.39/05, No.43/13 and No. 145/14);

Rulebook on the quality of animal feed (“Official Gazette RS” No.4/10, 113/12, No.27/14, 25/15 and 39/16);

Rulebook on the quality of natural mineral water, spring water and table water (“Official Gazette SCG” No.53/07 and “Official Gazette RS” No. 343/13)

Rulebook on the quality of raw coffee, coffee products, coffee substitutes and similar products (“Official Gazette RS” No. 54/12 and 80/15);

Rulebook on the quality of fish, crabs and shellfish (“Official Gazette of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SRJ)” No. 6/03, SCG 56/03 and SCG 4/04);

Rulebook on the quality of fruits, vegetables and mushrooms (“Official Gazette SCG” No.12/05, “Official Gazette RS” No.43/13, 72/14 and 101/15);

Rulebook on the quality of sugar (“Official Gazette SCG” 56/03 and No.4/04);

Rulebook on wine production, wine quality and geographical indications (“Official Gazette” RS No. 87/11);

Rulebook on the quality of alcoholic drinks (“Official Gazette” SCG No.24/04 and RS No. 74/10);

Rulebook on the quality of fruit juices, fruit concentrates, powder fruit juices, fruit nectars and other related products (“Official Gazette” RS No. 27/10, 67/10, 70/10, 44/11 and 77/11);

Rulebook on the quality of non-alcoholic drinks (“Official Gazette” SCG No. 18/06 and “Official Gazette” RS 43/13);

*The Law on Plant Health* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09), governs protection and improvement of plant health, measures for protection, detection, prevention of spreading, control and eradication of harmful organisms, phytosanitary controls and requirements for production, processing, imports, storage and trade in plants, plant products, requirements for prescribed facilities, as well as conditions to perform activities in the area of protection of plant health. The law also envisages establishment of the national reference phytosanitary laboratory, and introduces controls based on the assessment of risk. The adoption of the law was necessary for the purpose of harmonization with EU regulations, in particular Directive 2000/29/EC, International Plant Protection Convention, and the Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the WTO.



*The Law on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09), governs production, trade and commercial growing of GMO crops in Serbia. The Law also regulates the basic conditions for the use of GMOs in closed systems and the deliberate release into the environment. Currently the law prohibits all commercial use of GMO crops. As part of its EU and WTO accession process, Serbia would need to establish a transparent risk-based system for reviewing/approving biotech products.

*The Law on Organic Production* (“Official Gazette RS” 30/10) further harmonizes Serbian legislation with EU ordinances governing organic production and labeling. The Law covers production, processing, labeling, storing, transporting, and trade internally and internationally of organic products (vegetable and animal products). The Law regulates production methods and organic farming practices, as well as sets the system of controlling and certifying the whole chain of organic production.

With changes and amendments to the *Veterinary Law* (“Official Gazette RS” 91/05, 30/10 and 93/12), Serbia is getting closer to the EU standards and is improving the conditions for the export of animals and animal products to the EU. The amended law sets new conditions for establishing Centers for storing and distributing semen for artificial insemination, defines responsibilities for the National Reference Laboratory, establishes a system of alert in the case of contagious diseases and defines the measures that will be undertaken, sets out the system of identification and registration of animals and introduces other changes to harmonize requirements with EU rules. The *Veterinary Law* (“Official Gazette RS” 91/05) from 2005, which defines animal health and welfare protections, is still in effect in Serbia. It identifies animal diseases that are subject to the measures aimed at their prevention, detection, containment and eradication. The law deals with diseases transmittable to humans, the veterinary sanitary control and the requirements for production and circulation of animals and their products, edible animal products and animal feed, and the requirements for engagement in the practice of veterinary medicine.

*The Law on Livestock* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09, 93/12 and 14/16), regulates this important agribusiness sector. The Law on Livestock brought substantial changes in organization and production methods in the sector by means of enabling the formation of breeders’ associations and organizations with special authorizations, thus ensuring the direct influence of producers on the livestock breeding selection criteria and subsequently increased productivity of farm animals. The Ministry of Agriculture controls the activities of these associations and organizations through the Registration Body and also provides information on membership conditions to interested breeders.

*The Law on Animal Welfare* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09), regulates animal welfare, as well as the treatment of animals during killing, keeping, raising, circulating, transporting, slaughtering and experimenting. The law facilitates exports of Serbian animals and products of animal origin, by helping Serbia to harmonize its requirements with those of the EU on keeping and transporting animals. The adoption of the law brings the Serbian requirements into conformity with the rules of the OIE, EU Commission Decision 90/67, and the following EU Council recommendations Nos. 86/609, 2003/65 and 2003/584.

*Law on Pre-Harvest Financing of Agricultural Production* (“Official Gazette RS” No. 128/14) became effective in 2015. Law arose from the need to increase the volume of primary agricultural production by improving existing financing. The law created the possibility for establishing pre-harvest funding. It

also offers the use of future production (crops, fruits, vegetables, etc.), as a form of collateral to secure a loan. The law also envisages that the contract relating to the financing of production be entered into a registry, thus making it possible to check whether a parcel of farmland is encumbered with a loan. The registry of financing contracts is conducted by the Agency for Agricultural Registries and its establishment was financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), who together with the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) helped draft the new law. The EBRD and the FAO helped Serbia's Agriculture Ministry train stakeholders and potential users of the new system. The Serbian legislation was inspired by Brazil's *Cédula de Produto Rural* (Certificates of Agricultural Products or "CPRs") legislation.

*Law on the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Fishery Fund* ("Official Gazette RS" No. 128/14), the law regulates the catch, protection and trade in fish and the fishery fund that defines this sector as a renewable natural resource. The law sets out a system for issuing special permits for recreational fishing within the boundaries of protected areas and improves the management of fishery resources including the protection and sustainable use of fish stocks. The Serbian Parliament also adopted a Protocol on flood protection as part of the Agreement on the Sava River basin, which calls for establishing an international regime of navigation, sustainable water management, and protection against harmful effects to the waterway and aquatic eco-systems.

## **Section II. Labeling Requirements:**

### **General requirements:**

In 2013, Serbia adopted amendments to the Rulebook on the "Declaration and Labeling of Packed Foods" ("Official Gazette SCG" No. 4/04, 12/04 and 48/04). The new amended rulebook is called the Rulebook on "Declaration, Labeling and Marketing of Food" ("Official Gazette" RS No. 85/13 and No. 101/13). This Rulebook was put into the force from April 2015 (except some part on allergens) and it has brought food labelling rules closer to European standards, even is not yet fully in line with EU Regulation No. 1169/2011. Rulebook includes a list of substances that can cause allergies and/or intolerance, shows additional food information that must be presented at restaurants and food shops, the size of letters on declarations and the general rules for declarations made relating to unpacked food. The Rulebook regulates the labeling requirements for packed foods designated for consumer or public food consumption in Serbia. According to this regulation, a label must be present on both retail and bulk packaged foods and must indicate the following: expiration date, type and content of food additives, type and content of added vitamins, minerals, and other ingredients added to enrich the product's nutritional value. All foods are required to have the label in the Serbian language.

For each type of food product there is a specific ordinance that spells out labeling requirements. Product specifications must contain a short description of the technological process, the basic quality requirements, report any completed quality testing as well as the data regulated in the "Declaration, Labeling and Marketing of Food" by-law. Labels on foods that have been changed nutritionally for special diets must clearly indicate "dietetic food."

The label must contain the following information:

- 1) Product name and brand name
- 2) List of the ingredients
- 3) Quantities of the ingredients
- 4) Product net weight

- 5) Expiration date
- 6) Storage conditions and way of usage if necessary
- 7) Importers name and complete address, country of origin, and the country from where the food is being shipped
- 8) Country of origin or from where food was imported
- 9) Instruction for correct use of food
- 10) Amount of alcohol for beverages that contains more than 1.2% v/v
- 11) Lot number
- 12) Ingredients that can cause allergies and/or intolerance
- 13) Quality and class of the product, if the food is regulated by special categorization and classification rules

If the original label is in English (e.g. standard U.S. label) or any other language, the seller is obliged to prepare stick-on labels with a translation to accompany the imported products. It is the importer's obligation to place those translated labels on the product prior to retail distribution.

Bulk packaged foods designated for bulk sale or in the public facilities for food consumption, must contain the declaration with the following information: product's name and brand name if any, product net-weight (mass or volume) and expiration date. For imported food products, the declaration needs to have the importer's name and complete address, country of origin, and the country from which the food was shipped. According to this ordinance, the label must be noticeable, visible, clear and legible. The product's and the manufacturer's names must be printed in larger fonts in the Section: Defining the size of letters. Labels for margarine and similar products must include the percentage of individual components. If vitamins are added the label must indicate "enriched with vitamins." If the manufacturing and packaging companies are not the same, the label must indicate the company that did the packaging. Labels for honey must include its origin and production method (e.g. comb, liquid, strained honey). If it was imported, it must be labeled "imported honey." Labels for roasted coffee must indicate its origin and date of roasting.

The Rulebook contains additional information in Article No.4 on marketing of food. This Article specifies marketing conditions so as not to mislead final consumers, including:

1. Specifying the nature of the food, especially its origin, identity, trait, composition, quantity, duration and means of production;
2. Declaring the specific foods that are contained in the product and not making claims, especially about traits the food does not contain;

The Rulebook on the "Declaration, Labeling and Marketing of Food" ("Official Gazette" RS No. 85/13 and No. 101/13) lists food that must contain one or more additional information. This includes: food products packed under special conditions including gas; food products that contain sweeteners; food products with ammonium salt; drinks with a high percentage of caffeine and foods containing caffeine; food products with phytosterols; and frozen meat, processed meat products and frozen unprocessed fish.

If products were artificially colored and conserved by preservatives, this must be indicated right below the product's name, e.g. "artificially colored" or "conserved by preservative", and which chemicals were used must also be indicated. Claims such as "light" and "reduced" are permitted. However, generally labels must not contain words, pictures and drawings and health-related information that could mislead consumers regarding the product's origin, quantity and quality.

Additives must be marked on the declaration by category and name or the additive's "E" number (preservative-Sodium Benzoate or preservative E 211), except for the category of "modified starch" which has no additive denotation or "E" number. When modified starch may contain gluten, the origin of the starch has to be indicated on the declaration (wheat, barley, rye and oat). For additives belonging to the acid category and those that contain the word "acid" within the actual name, it is sufficient to denote the additive without the category.

The description of the nutritive values may contain data about the following components: starch, monounsaturated fatty acids, polyunsaturated fatty acids, cholesterol, minerals and vitamins.

Food samples shipped to Serbia do not need to be labeled. However, all the packaging of shipped sample products should be clearly marked: "Samples - not for sale."

### **Requirements to Nutritional Labeling:**

Nutritional declarations, allowed nutritional statements and conditions for their use are regulated by Appendix 7 of the Rulebook for the "Declaration, Labeling and Marketing of Food" ("Official Gazette" RS No. 85/13 and No. 101/13). Nutritional declarations are mandatory when a declaration contains a nutritional statement such as low calorie, low fat, high caffeine (>150 mg/l), low sugar, enriched with vitamins. Otherwise, they are voluntary. The rulebook does not regulate the appearance of the nutritional declaration but rather its content. Thus, the format of the U.S. "nutritional facts" label is acceptable. Part of the text of the food product name may contain the following statements: "with sweetener" (if product contains one or more sweeteners); "with sugar and sweetener addition" (if one or more different sugars and sweeteners were added to the product); "contains phenylalanine" (if the product contain aspartame-E591); "excessive usage may cause laxative effect" (if the product contain more than 10% additional polys). These statements need to be highlighted. The Rulebook also contains a list of the reference daily intake of vitamins and minerals (for adults), reference daily intake of energy and selected food ingredients that are not vitamins and minerals (for adults) as well as the conversion factors for energy values.

### **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:**

The Law on Packaging and Packaging Waste Management was adopted in 2009 ("Official Gazette RS" No.36/09). The Law brings Serbian requirements into compliance with the EU directive on packaging and waste material. The Law regulates the use of secondary materials; manages their collection, conditions of processing and storage, but does not regulate materials that come into contact with food. The collection and recycling of already used packaging materials is regulated by the Law on Waste Material Handling and by the Rulebook on Secondary Material Collection, Transport, Storage Conditions and Handling ("Official Gazette RS" No.98/10). Communal waste management, including food and beverage packaging material, is enforced by local and municipal authorities.

Packaging requirements are subject to specific ordinances for each type of food. For example, the

packaging material for raw coffee packed in ½ kg units must weigh less than 50g per square meter. The packaging requirements for different foods are comprehensive and are regulated by the Rulebook on quality control of these products (meat, dairy products, fruit juices, fish etc).

#### **Section IV. Food Additives Regulations:**

Serbia's regulations on food additives were changed in July 2013. The Rulebook for "Quality and Conditions for Use of Additives in Foodstuffs and Other Requirements for Additives and Their Mixtures" ("Official Gazette SCG" No.56/03, 4/04, 5/04 and 16/05), was changed by adopting the new Rulebook on Food Additives" ("Official Gazette RS" No.63/13). According to that rulebook, there is a list of additives that can be used in the food processing process. According to the rulebook, additives are substances that are not foods (regardless of their nutritive value) but are added to foods during processing because of their effect on the food's organoleptic characteristics. Substances added to enrich nutritive value and salt are not considered additives. Additives can be added to foods if approved and listed in the so-called "List No. 1" provided in the above-mentioned ordinance (approximately 500 additives in total). The quantity used must be in accordance with specific regulations for each group of products. Additives must not affect/decrease a food product's nutritive value or change significantly the taste and flavor of products, unless this is the intent. They also must not create toxins in products during the processing, storage or use. They must be identifiable, which means that their type and quantity in products can be tested, unless they were removed or destroyed during processing. Additive usage generally must be justified from a technical standpoint. Approved additives are listed in the Section B and are divided into three groups: colors, sweeteners and others additives (except colors and sweeteners),

According to the Rulebook on the "Declaration, Labeling and Marketing of Food ("Official Gazette" RS No. 85/13 and No. 101/13), additives must be specified on the food label mentioning the category and name of the additive or its E number. The label must clearly indicate the following:

- The additive's name according to the group of additives or mixture name, including its usage and brand name, if any;
- The manufacturer's name and complete address;
- The date of manufacturing (day/month/year) and "best before" date;
- The product's net-weight (mass or volume) in metric units;
- For additives, the category and name of the additive or its E number (preservative – sodium-benzoate or preservative E 211) must be included.
- Additive carriers (e.g. ethanol) must be declared.
- For additive mixtures: List additive names in order of their predominance compared to product's net-weight. If certain additives can be used only in limited quantity, the quantity must be declared;
- Name of the country of origin-if imported;

The product's name and the manufacturer's name must be printed in larger fonts. Labels must indicate the company that did the packaging (name and address) if different from manufacturer. Sodium nitrite, potassium and saltpeter mixtures used for pickling may be sold but only in original packaging and must be marked as "warning – poison" and "keep in dry place."

#### **Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants:**

All imported food products into Serbia must comply with domestic rules on pesticides and other

contaminants. Serbia is a member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CODEX); thus maximum residue limits (MRLs) are generally recognized for imported foodstuffs. In 2013, Serbia adopted a new Rulebook on “Maximum Residue Limits of Pesticides” (“Official Gazette RS” No. 20/13 and 29/14), describing residue limits for pesticides and other contaminants, (e.g. hormones, antibiotics and mycotoxins) which can be found in food.

*The Law on Plant Protection Products (pesticides)* (“Official Gazette” No.41/09) governs control, circulation, imports and application of plant protection products in agriculture and forestry. The Law was adopted in May 2009, but the portion of the law that covered product registration (articles 11-25) was not implemented until January 1, 2014. The law also established a national reference laboratory for residue testing. In March 2015, the Phytosanitary Laboratory for Plant Protection opened. The Directorate for National Reference Laboratories is responsible for registering and controlling pesticides (see Appendix I, #15 for contact information). Pesticide users must be educated in the use of pesticides. Farmers receive training in the safe use of pesticides from the Agricultural Extension Service.

The Rulebook on the “Maximum allowed quantities of pesticide residues in food and feed” (“Official Gazette RS” No.25/10 and 28/11), defines the maximum permitted levels of pesticide residues in food and feed, as substances used for the protection of agricultural products against diseases and pests. Lists of food and feed, maximum allowed residue limits, and active substances per mg/kg are listed in the attachments to this Rulebook. These lists include the different pesticides, their commercial names, chemical names and maximum tolerances in milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) by food and type of food.

Food contaminants are listed as lead, cadmium, mercury, zinc, tin, copper, arsenic, iron and other metals and nonmetals. The ordinance provides a table with maximum residue limits for 43 different foods (expressed in mg/kg). Hormones and antibiotic residues are generally not allowed in food products. Maximum residue limits of mycotoxins are also regulated for grains, flour, legumes, beans, nuts, coffee, roasted cocoa and peanuts. These lists are available from the FAS office in Belgrade (see Appendix II).

*The Law on Plant Nutrition Products and Soil Enhancers (fertilizers)*, (“Official Gazette RS” 41/09) regulates classification, quality and labeling, phytosanitary control, sampling in circulation, imports, application and testing of plant nutrition products and soil enhancers. The law facilitates exports of Serbian plant nutrition products; introduces labeling in accordance with EU requirements (label EC fertilizer). The law helps harmonize Serbian requirements with EU regulations and the TBT Agreement of the WTO.

Serbia has a list of approved pesticides and fertilizers that can be imported and traded. These lists can be obtained from the Phytosanitary Department/Import and Registration of Pesticides at the Ministry of Agriculture (see Appendix II). The Rulebook on the “Request Forms and Content for Registering Distributors and Importers of Plant Protection Products and the Content of this Register” (“Official Gazette RS” No.5/10) regulates how distributors and importers of fertilizers can be added to the official register. Serbia also adopted the new Rulebook on “Packaging Conditions of Fertilizers” (“Official Gazette RS” No.13/10), that indicates how fertilizers should be packed; depending on whether they are in a liquid or in a solid formulation.

## **Section VI. Other Regulations and Requirements:**

Importers of live animals and products of animal origin must request an import approval from the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture (see Appendix I for contact). Serbian import requirements are in accordance with the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) requirements. Serbia has been a member of the OIE since May 2003.

The Rulebook on “General and Specific Conditions for Hygiene of Food at any Phase of Production, Processing and Trade” (“Official Gazette RS” No. 72/10) went into effect on June 1, 2011. This Rulebook regulates hygiene in all phases of food production, processing and trade. Appendix I of this Rulebook includes a list of microbiological criteria for different kinds of food products.

Certification and documentation: live animals, meat, and dairy products require veterinary certification, while seeds, fruits and vegetables require a phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country’s relevant authorities (e.g. USDA/FSIS or USDA/APHIS). Special certification is needed for veterinary drugs, demonstrating the drugs have been approved and used in the country of origin. Information can be obtained from the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture (Appendix I).

Foods that are subject to veterinary and phytosanitary inspections can enter thru all border crossings where veterinary and phytosanitary border inspection posts exist. Importers should always inform the Ministry of Agriculture in order to send the import approvals to the relevant border inspection post at the point of entry. Inspection services are charged as per a published, official price list. Inspections will cost more if they are performed after regular working hours and/or on weekends and holidays.

In 2012, the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture adopted the new guidance on the procedure for “Official Mixed Origin at Import”. The number of imported food and feed samples was drastically reduced to approximately 150 controls per month versus sampling every shipment (approx. 8,000-10,000 controls per month). Now sampling at the border focuses on: products imported for the first time into Serbia; products that have changed their labels; products not tested in the country of origin for more than six months; or, products coming from countries which have been identified as high risk based on prior problems. According to this decree, fresh and processed fruits and vegetables, grain and milling products, raw coffee and teas are sampled every three months regardless of the country of origin. According to the decree the importer must provide the following required import documents: an invoice, the specifications of the imported products, a customs declaration, information on the destination of the goods until the customs procedure is completed, any prior official reports regarding the same type of product, and any official results from prior sampling of the same type of product.

## **Foreign Trade and Customs Policies**

*The Law on Foreign Trade* (“Official Gazette RS” No.36/09, 36/11, 88/11 and 89/15) regulates foreign trade in accordance with the EU and WTO rules. The Law is in principle designed to promote free trade of goods and services. Per this Law, restrictions and import bans may be applied only when they are needed to protect public health or guard the domestic market against subsidized or dumped products.

*The Law on Customs Tariff* (“Official Gazette RS” No.62/05, 61/07, 112/07, 9/08, 10/09, 100/09, 66/10, 95/11, 11/12, 115/12, 130/14 and 98/15) and Decree on “Harmonization of Customs Tariff Nomenclature for 2013”, was adopted in November 2012. This decree was adopted as part of the

implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) between Serbia and the EU.

Effective January 1, 2014, per the SAA, approximately 95 percent of all EU agriculture imports became duty free effective. The remaining items now have an average duty rate of 0.99 percent, although the rate is significantly higher on certain sensitive agricultural commodities. These products include honey, fresh tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, leafy greens, cucumbers, fruits, dry plums, live animals, fresh/chilled/frozen meats (except turkey and goat meat), processed meat products, pasta, wheat, corn, sugar, edible sunflower oil, fruit juices, fruit jams, fruit brandy and most dairy products. Tariffs on these products will not be changed until Serbia becomes a full member of the European Union.

However significant reductions in customs tariffs were introduced for some agricultural products: beef (from 15 percent to 12 percent), pork and poultry meat (15 percent to 9 percent), and cheeses (15 percent to 10.5 percent). Also, tariffs on bovine milk were completely eliminated. The gradual liberalization of custom tariffs between Serbia and the EU began in 2009 and included a 6 year phase-in period (completed in 2014). Full liberalization should occur when Serbia becomes an EU member. Serbia also has Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with the Russian Federation, Turkey, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and countries from Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA), [Albania](#), [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), [Macedonia](#), [Moldova](#), [Montenegro](#), [Serbia](#) and the [United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo](#) (UNMIK) on behalf of [Kosovo](#).

Serbia applies the Harmonized System (HS) to its tariff schedule. Customs tariffs for agricultural products from third countries range from zero to 30 percent of imported values, with additional levies and seasonal taxes based on unit weight being applied to some agricultural products (for some fresh fruits and vegetables) only for the period of May to September each year. The harmonization of Serbian customs tariffs was necessary to facilitate customs clearance with EU countries that are among Serbia's key trading partners and to assist with the WTO negotiation process. The Decree on the "Harmonization of the Customs Tariff Nomenclature", established 9,706 tariff lines which are now harmonized with the EU's customs tariff nomenclature. Tariff lines for agricultural commodities are in Chapter 1-24.

Serbia's tariff rates fall into six groups: 1) the standard tariff rates, 2) the tariff rates for EU countries (according to the Stabilization and Association Agreement signed in 2008); 3) tariff rates for signatory countries of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) signed in 2006, which include Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Moldavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and UNMIK-Kosovo; 4) tariff rates for signatory countries of the European Free Trade Agreement (EFTA) signed in 2009 which include Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Lichtenstein; 5) tariff rates for Russia (as per a Free Trade Agreement signed in 2000), Belorussia (as per a Free Trade Agreement signed in 2009) and Kazakhstan (as per a Free Trade Agreement signed in 2010); and, 6) tariff rates for products from Turkey (as per a Free Trade Agreement signed in 2009).

Since 2006, Serbia has been a member of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) which currently includes: Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Moldavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and UNMIK-Kosovo. CEFTA countries account for 50 percent of Serbia's total agricultural exports and 23 percent of Serbia's total agricultural imports.

Serbia is not yet a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) but it has been harmonizing its legislation with WTO requirements, including food safety and phytosanitary regulations, in an effort to



advance the accession process. Work still needs to be done on its legislation regarding Genetically Modified Organisms to bring it into compliance with WTO and EU requirements. Serbia is already a member of the CODEX Alimentarius, the European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD), the Union of Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the European Cooperative Program for Crop Genetic Resources Networks (ECP/GR); and is a signatory of the Aarhus Convention and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

## **Customs and Taxation**

With the amended Customs Law and the Law on Customs tariffs, Serbia passed a number of implementing legislative acts. The legislation has been amended to align with the EU *Acquis* and some simplified procedures have been set up (i.e. summary declaration procedures and a simplified declaration). Serbia has adopted a new law on free trade zones, offering tax breaks and simplified procedures, while enabling foreign owned companies to establish and manage free trade zones in Serbia.

Overall, Serbia has reached a relatively good level of alignment with the EU customs *Acquis*. In particular, significant improvements have been noted in the field of control and management of preferential trade measures (by origin). This is the result not only of the existence of computerized customs procedures, but also because of intensified training of customs officers. Concerning taxation, taxes are applied at the same rates for locally produced and imported goods. As of 2012, Serbia's value-added tax (VAT) for non-essential products is 20 percent, while the VAT on essential agricultural and food products (e.g. bread, flour, milk and dairy products, sugar, edible oil from sunflower, corn, soya, rape seed, olives, animal or plant origin fat, honey, frozen, processed, fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and meat products, fish, eggs, grains, oilseeds, sugar beet, seeds, planting material, cattle feed, pesticides and fertilizers) is 10 percent.

### **Section VII. Other Specific Standards:**

Alcoholic beverages, wine, non-alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are subject to specific taxation rules issued by the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry of Finance issues excise stamps, which must be included on the packaging prior to import into Serbia (please see Appendix I, # 5 for contact information). Import of alcoholic beverages, wine and non-alcoholic beverages no longer require an import permit, but they must meet the quality controls before they can be imported. In 2009, Serbia adopted a Law on Wine, a Law on Beer and a Law on Ethanol. Then, in 2015, Serbia adopted a Law on Strong Alcoholic Beverages that amends the Law on Brandy and Other Alcohol Drinks. From 2011 to 2015, a number of rulebooks were adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture in order to implement the following laws:

*The Law on Brandy and Other Alcohol Drinks* ("Official Gazette RS" No.41/09) is superseded by the new *Law on Strong Alcoholic Beverages* ("Official Gazette RS" No. 92/15) that went into the effect on January 1, 2016. This new law regulates the production, trade, geographical designation, quality, description, labeling and transport of strong alcoholic drinks. It also envisages simpler and cheaper production of strong alcoholic beverages (mostly fruit brandies called "rakija"). According to the new law, strong alcoholic spirits are beverages intended for human consumption with specific organoleptic characteristics and a minimum alcoholic volume of 15 percent. According to the law, individual producers can legally sell domestically alcoholic beverages in two ways: 1) by selling it in bulk to registered legal entities that then process, bottle and trade the product or 2) by registering themselves

with the Ministry of Agriculture to trade domestically produced strong alcoholic beverages. It is expected that the new law will aid small producers to sell their products legally. Previously, the registration and conditions for producing strong alcoholic beverages were relatively complicated and burdensome, so most individuals did not go through the full process. Reportedly, the law also will facilitate the registration and regulation of geographic indications and improve the intellectual property protections in this area.

*The Law on Wine* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09) and the Law on Amendments on Changes to the Law on Wine (“Official Gazette RS” 93/12) regulate various aspects of production and sales of wine. The regulations cover winemaking practices, classification and labeling, wine-production potential, documentation of wine industry activities and the duties of the enforcement agencies/inspections.

*The Law on Ethanol* (“Official Gazette RS” No.41/09) regulates production, marketing, export and import of ethanol. The law introduced the EU’s standards and regulatory framework in an effort to facilitate ethanol exports to the EU and the regional market. The regulation governs quality control and was intended to facilitate usage of Serbian ethanol across various industries (food processing, alcohol beverages production, medical, pharmaceutical cosmetics etc), as well as attract new investment in ethanol production and trade. The law prescribes methods of registering production, packaging, marketing, quality controls and the responsibilities of controlling agencies/inspections. Several by-laws are still needed to more precisely regulate the technical aspects of ethanol production, as well as trade and market conditions.

*The Law on Beer* (“Official Gazette RS” 30/10), represents a legal framework for regulating beer production and sales, and is intended to make Serbia’s beer industry more export competitive. The law allows only registered breweries to produce beer. Serbia’s Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection maintains a public register of breweries, as well as data on annual production, consumption of raw materials and production of final products.

#### **Section VIII. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws:**

*The Law on Special Authorization for the Efficient Protection of Intellectual Property Rights*, (“Official Gazette RS” No.104/09, 99/11 and 10/13) protects trademark, service marks and brand names. Trade or service marks receive protection for a 10-year term from the date of filing, with the opportunity for the term to be extended. Serbia also applies the Law on Trademarks, (“Official Gazette RS” No. 104/09, 99/11 and 119/12) governing the manner of acquisition and the protection of rights with respect to marks used in trade of goods and/or services. The Law on Patents (“Official Gazette RS” No. 99/11) legally protects and regulates patents and rights of the inventors, while the Law on Copyrights, (“Official Gazette RS” No.104/09, 99/11 and 119/12) regulates copyright matters. Domestic and foreign applications must be submitted to the Intellectual Property Office (see Appendix II). Serbia is a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and signatory to a large number of conventions such as the Paris Convention Treaty on Patent Cooperation and the Madrid Agreement on International Registration of Marks. In 2010, Serbia adopted a new Law on Geographical Indications of Origin (“Official Gazette RS” No.18/10). This Law regulates the registration and legal protection of geographical indications of origin (GIs). GIs in the Republic of Serbia are registered on the basis of the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration (The Lisbon Agreement [http://www.wipo.int/lisbon/en/legal\\_texts/lisbon\\_agreement.html](http://www.wipo.int/lisbon/en/legal_texts/lisbon_agreement.html)). GIs can be used to mark natural, agricultural, food and industrial products, traditional handicrafts and even services.

As a part of its EU and WTO harmonization efforts, Serbia adopted the *Law on Protection of Plant Breeder's Rights/UPOV* ("Official Gazette RS" No.41/09) and the *Law on Amendments on Changes of Law on Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights/UPOV* ("Official Gazette RS" No. 88/11) that regulates protection of intellectual property rights of plant variety breeders, conditions for domestic breeders to register new plant varieties, conditions for safe circulation of foreign protected varieties in the domestic market. The law improved the availability of new domestic and foreign plant varieties, which should have a positive effect on agricultural production. Adoption of the law was necessary to harmonize Serbia's legal environment with the Convention of the Union for Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and represented a precondition for membership of Serbia in UPOV. Serbia became a full member of UPOV in 2013 and since then it adopted all the required legislation. This law is also important for harmonizing with EU legislation and with the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) of the WTO.

### **Section IX. Import Procedures:**

Foreign suppliers can export food products to Serbia using a locally registered office or a local company, shipping agent or forwarding agent registered for import activities. It is common for agents to help with food import regulations. Import approvals for agriculture commodities should be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. Import approvals are required for live animals, products of animal origin with more than 2 percent of animal component, genetics, veterinary drugs, seeds and planting materials or pesticides. Prior approval is not required for other food products.

Standard documents such as a customs declaration, commercial invoice, bill of lading, and import approval (for the products mentioned above) must accompany all shipments as well as the relevant health certificates issued by the competent authority in the country of origin (e.g. a veterinary certificate for meat and meat products, a phytosanitary certificate for fruits, vegetables, seeds, planting material etc). In addition to a document check, veterinary and phytosanitary inspections are conducted at select border crossing points. Foods of animal origin and veterinary drugs must have prior import approvals from the Veterinary Department of the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. Forms for import notification are available online at the Ministry of Agriculture's website or can be obtained from the Ministry's Veterinary Department or from the Department for International Trade and Collaboration (please see Appendix I).

Imports of seeds and planting materials into Serbia are regulated by the *Law on Seeds* ("Official Gazette RS" 45/05 and 30/10), the *Law on Planting Material of Fruits, Vine and Hops* ("Official Gazette RS" No.18/05 and 30/10) and the *Law on Protection of Plant Breeders' Rights* ("Official Gazette RS" No.41/09 and No. 88/11). Seed imports currently must be accompanied by a bill of lading, phytosanitary certificate, a variety of seed certificate (OECD) and a seed quality certificate (ISTA). Imported seeds must have a declaration issued by the relevant institution in the country of origin when they enter the Serbian market. For import of seeds U.S. exporter must check with the local importer about import requirements for seeds. Seeds are subject to field trials as part of the registration process and prior to being allowed to circulate on the market they must be included in the national register of the Ministry of Agriculture (please see Appendix I., #7).

### **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts:**

#### **1. Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection**

Nemanjina 22-26,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Phone: ++ 381 11 260 7960

Fax: ++ 381 11 260 7961

E-mail: [office@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:office@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page: <http://www.mpzss.gov.rs/> and <http://www.eko.minpolj.gov.rs/>

## **2. Serbian Ministry of Trade, Telecommunication and Tourism**

Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 2,  
11070 New Belgrade, Serbia

Phone: ++ 381 11 311 3432

Fax: ++ 381 11 311 4650

E-mail: [kabinet@mtt.gov.rs](mailto:kabinet@mtt.gov.rs)

Web page: [www.mtt.gov.rs](http://www.mtt.gov.rs)

## **3. Serbian Ministry of Health**

Nemanjina 22-26,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Phone: ++ 381 11 3616 596

Fax: ++ 381 11 265 6548

E-mail: [kabinet@zdravlje.gov.rs](mailto:kabinet@zdravlje.gov.rs)

Web page: [www.zdravlje.gov.rs](http://www.zdravlje.gov.rs)

## **4. Serbian Ministry of Economy**

Kneza Milosa 20,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Phone: ++ 381 11 36 42 700

E-mail: [kabinet@privreda.gov.rs](mailto:kabinet@privreda.gov.rs)

Web page: [http://www.privreda.gov.rs/?change\\_lang=en](http://www.privreda.gov.rs/?change_lang=en)

## **5. Serbian Ministry of Finance**

Kneza Milosa 20,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Phone: ++ 381 11 361 32 45

E-mail: [kabinet@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:kabinet@mfin.gov.rs)

Web page: <http://www.mfin.gov.rs>

## **6. Import of live animals and products of animal origin, veterinary drugs**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection  
Veterinary Department/International Trade and Certification

Omladinskih brigada 1,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Contact person: Mr. Sinisa Kotur

Phone: ++ 381 11 2602 634

Fax: ++ 381 11 2602 498

E-mail: [Sinisa.Kotur@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:Sinisa.Kotur@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page: [http://www.vet.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=22](http://www.vet.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=22)

### **7. Import of seeds and planting material**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

Phytosanitary Department

Omladinskih Brigada 1,

11070 New Belgrade, Serbia

Contact person: Mr. Vlade Djokovic

Phone: ++ 381 11 311 7371

E-mail: [vlade.djokovic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:vlade.djokovic@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page: [http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=13&menu\\_id=20](http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=13&menu_id=20)

### **8. Import of pesticides and fertilizers**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

Phytosanitary Department/Import and registration of pesticides

Omladinskih Brigada 1,

11070 New Belgrade, Serbia

Contact person: Ms. Snezana Petric-Savcic

Phone: ++ 381 11 2600 081

E-mail: [snezana.savcicpetric@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:snezana.savcicpetric@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page : [http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=13&menu\\_id=20](http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=13&menu_id=20)

### **9. GMO approvals and registrations**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

1, Omladinskih Brigada St.

11070 New Belgrade, Serbia

Contact person: Mrs. Vanja Kojic

Phone: ++ 381 11 311 7591

Fax: ++ 381 11 311 7591

E-mail: [Vanja.Kojic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:Vanja.Kojic@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page : [http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=13&menu\\_id=20](http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=13&menu_id=20)

### **10. Approvals of plant varieties**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

1, Omladinskih Brigada St.

11070 New Belgrade, Serbia

Contact person: Mr. Dragan Dedic

Phone: ++ 381 11 311 7317

E-mail: [Dragan.Dedic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:Dragan.Dedic@minpolj.gov.rs)

Web page : [http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=13&menu\\_id=20](http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=13&menu_id=20)

### **11. Inspection on sanitary conformity**

Serbian Ministry of Health

Department for Sanitary Inspection

1, Omladinskih Brigada Str.  
11070 New Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 2607 874  
Web page: [www.zdravlje.gov.rs](http://www.zdravlje.gov.rs)

## **12. Market inspection**

Serbian Ministry of Trade, Telecommunication and Tourism  
Department for Market Inspection  
Nemanjina 22-26  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 361 4334  
E-mail: [lidija.stojanovic@mtt.gov.rs](mailto:lidija.stojanovic@mtt.gov.rs)  
Web page: <http://razvoj.mtt.gov.rs/en/sectors-of-the-ministry/sector-for-market-inspection/>

## **13. Imports of Wine**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection  
Nemanjina 22-26,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Contact person: Mr. Darko Jaksic  
Phone: ++ 381 11 3617 595  
Fax: ++ 381 11 3621 505  
E-mail: [djaksic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:djaksic@minpolj.gov.rs)  
<http://www.mpzss.gov.rs>

## **14. Imports of brandy, alcohol and nonalcoholic beverages**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection  
Nemanjina 22-26,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Contact persons: Ms. Kolinda Herhorovic  
Phone: ++ 381 11 3617 701  
E-mail: [kolinda@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:kolinda@minpolj.gov.rs)  
Web page: <http://www.mpzss.gov.rs>

## **15. Directorate for National Reference Laboratories**

Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection  
Batajnicki drum bb,  
11080 Zemun, Serbia  
Contact person: Slavoljub Stanojevic  
E-mail: [slavoljub.stanojevic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:slavoljub.stanojevic@minpolj.gov.rs)  
Web page: [http://www.dnrl.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu\\_id=100](http://www.dnrl.minpolj.gov.rs/?menu_id=100)

## **16. Customs clearance:**

Serbian Custom Administration  
Bulevar Zorana Đinđića 155 a,

11070 New Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 2690 822  
E-mail: [pr@carina.rs](mailto:pr@carina.rs)  
Web page: <http://www.carina.rs/en>

**17. Institute for trademarks, patents and intellectual property**

Intellectual Property Office  
Knjeginje Ljubice 5, 11000 Belgrade  
Phone: ++ 381 11 2025 800  
Fax: ++ 381 11 311 2377  
E-mail: [zis@zis.gov.rs](mailto:zis@zis.gov.rs)  
Web page: [www.zis.gov.rs](http://www.zis.gov.rs)

**18. Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia**

Milana Rakica 5,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: +381 11 2412 922  
Fax: +381 11 2411 260  
E-mail: [stat@stat.gov.rs](mailto:stat@stat.gov.rs)  
Web page : <http://webrzs.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/>

**19. Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia**

13-15 Resavska Street,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: +381 11 3300-900  
Fax: +381 11 3230949  
E-mail: [info@pks.rs](mailto:info@pks.rs)  
Web page : <http://www.pks.rs/>

**20. European Integration Office**

34 Nemanjina Street,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: + 38111 3061-100, 3061-102, 3061-103  
E-mail: [office@seio.gov.rs](mailto:office@seio.gov.rs)  
Web page: <http://www.seio.gov.rs/office/welcome.262.html>

**21. Serbian Government Official**

Web page: [http://www.srbija.gov.rs/?change\\_lang=en](http://www.srbija.gov.rs/?change_lang=en)

**Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:**

**1. Office of Agricultural Affairs (Foreign Agricultural Service)**

U.S. Embassy Belgrade  
Bulevar kneza Aleksandra Karadjordjevic 92,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++381 11 706 4158

Contact person: Agriculture Specialist, Mrs. Tatjana Maslac  
E-mail: [tatjana.maslac@fas.usda.gov](mailto:tatjana.maslac@fas.usda.gov)  
Web page: <http://serbia.usembassy.gov/>

## **2. University of Belgrade, Veterinary Faculty**

Bul. JNA18,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 361 5436  
Fax: ++ 381 11 2685 936  
Web page: <http://www.vet.bg.ac.rs/>

## **3. Institute of Meat Hygiene and Meat Technology**

Kacanskog 13,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 2650 655  
Fax: ++ 381 11 2651 825  
E-mail: [institute@inmesbgd.com](mailto:institute@inmesbgd.com)  
Web page: [www.inmesbgd.com](http://www.inmesbgd.com)

## **4. National Laboratory for Seed Testing**

Maksima Gorkog 30,  
21000 Novi Sad, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 21 4898 100  
Fax: ++ 381 21 6621 212  
E-mail: [institut@ifvcns.ns.ac.rs](mailto:institut@ifvcns.ns.ac.rs)  
Web page: <http://www.nsseme.com/en/>

## **5. Institute for Public Health “Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut”**

Dr. Subotica 5,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
Phone: + 381 11 2684 566  
Fax: +381 11 2685 735  
Web page: [www.batut.org.rs](http://www.batut.org.rs)

## **6. Institute for Science Application in Agriculture**

Phone: ++ 381 11 275 1622  
Fax: ++381 11 275 2959  
Bulevar Despota Stefana 68b,  
11000 Belgrade, Serbia  
E-mail: [admin@psss.rs](mailto:admin@psss.rs)  
Web page: [www.psss.rs](http://www.psss.rs)

## **7. Agriculture Faculty Belgrade**

Nemanjina 6,



11080 Zemun, Serbia  
Phone: ++ 381 11 2615 315  
Fax: ++ 381 11 2193 659  
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