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Global Agricultural Information Network

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Poland

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

FAIRS Country Report

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Report Highlights:

Poland as a member of the European Union applies EU directives and regulations to agricultural imports with only few exceptions. U.S. suppliers should verify with the respective AMS, FDA, FSIS or APHIS Inspection offices and importer for the most current EU/Poland import requirements prior to export. The EU Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report prepared by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels should be consulted simultaneously with this report.

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Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Warsaw, Poland for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. 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 U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers before any goods are shipped. **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.**

Section I. General Food Laws:

Based on the EU single market principle, Poland, as a member of the EU, mostly adheres to EU regulations governing agricultural imports. **Regulation EC/178/2002** (General Food Law) is the harmonized regulation which sets out the general principles and requirements of EU harmonized food law. Exporters should be aware that there may also be some variation among Member States in applying EU harmonized legislation, however, most of the regulations relevant to food and agricultural imports into Poland have been harmonized with EU regulations.

In addition, **Regulation EC/178/2002** (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2002:031:0001:0024:en:PDF>) protects consumers against fraudulent or deceptive commercial practices. This legislation also aims to protect animal health and welfare, plant health, and the environment. No **foodstuff dangerous** to health and/or unfit for consumption may be placed on the market. To determine whether a foodstuff is dangerous, the following are considered:

- Normal conditions of use
 - Information provided to the consumer
 - Probable immediate or delayed effect on health
 - Cumulative toxic effects
 - Specific sensitivity of certain consumers

Where any food which is unsafe is part of a batch, lot or consignment, it is assumed that the whole batch, lot, or consignment is unsafe. **Animal feed deemed** to be unsafe cannot be placed on the market or fed to any food-producing animals. Producers must apply the food legislation at all stages of the food chain, from the production, processing, transport and distribution stages through to the supply of food. Furthermore, producers are responsible for ensuring the traceability of products at all stages of the production, processing, and distribution, including with regard to substances incorporated into the foodstuffs.

Exceptions can occur when a member state can substantiate a health concern about a product; a member state can apply leeway (actual or perceived) in how to interpret an EU directive; and when harmonized EU legislation is lacking, for

example, for vitamins, minerals, and pesticide residues. Wide variations in inspection fees, in registration fees and in the time required to evaluate ingredients also exist between member countries. For these reasons, exporters are strongly encouraged to work closely with local importers.

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) provides scientific expertise and scientific and technical support in all areas impacting food safety. It constitutes an independent source of information on all matters in this field to build an integrated and effective food safety system across all member states, and disseminates changes in regulations to the general public. Participation in EFSA is open to EU Member States and to other countries applying EU food safety law.

EFSA is also responsible for coordinating risk assessments and identifying emerging risks, providing scientific and technical advice to the EU Commission, including crisis management, collecting and publishing scientific and technical data in areas relating to food safety, and establishing European networks of organizations operating in the field of food safety. More information about EFSA can be found at: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/>.

Additional detailed information on the EU procedures can be found in FAS/Brussels USEU [GAIN report “How the EU works – A guide to EU decision-making”](#) and [EU 28 Food and Agricultural Standard Report](#)

Current Polish Food Laws

On August 25, 2006, the law governing food products contained in the Act on Food Safety and Nutrition (Ustawa o bezpieczeństwie żywności i żywienia) was published (Polish Journal of Law 2006, No 171, pos. 1225). The law has since then has been modified to reflect new E.U legislations as well as Polish regulations (including new regulations [pertaining to food permitted for sales at schools](#)). The [consolidated version](#) of the law was published on April 30, 2015 (Journal of Laws 2015 No. 594 (in Polish language) and can be found at: <http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20150000594>. This Act sets out the legislative framework on safety of food and nutrition. It establishes: sanitary requirements applicable to food, hygienic conditions to be fulfilled by foodstuffs as well as materials and products intended to come into contact with food, properties of institutions responsible for the official control of food, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004, provisions on food inspection.

The Act is composed of the following Sections:

- (1) General provisions and definitions;
- (2) Sanitary and labeling requirements for food;
- (3) Materials and products intended to come into contact with food;
- (4) Hygienic requirements;
- (5) Official inspection on food;
- (6) Institutions and cooperation in the area of food safety;
- (7) Liability for harms caused by foodstuffs;
- (8) Criminal provisions and penalties;
- (9) Amendments to provisions in force, transitional and final provisions.

In 2011 a regulation from the Minister of Health on products entering the Polish market for the first time was introduced: „Regulation of the Minister of Health of 23 March 2011 on the standard form of notification of the products introduced for the first time to trading on Polish territory, the register of products covered by the notification and the list of national scientific bodies competent to issue opinions“ (“Rozporządzenie Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 23 marca 2011 r. w sprawie wzoru formularza powiadomienia o produktach wprowadzonych po raz pierwszy do obrotu na terytorium Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, rejestru produktów objętych powiadomieniem oraz wykazu krajowych jednostek naukowych właściwych do wydawania opinii” (Polish Journal of Law 2011, No. 80, pos. 437) was published on March 23, 2011. The text of that law (link in Polish only) can be found at: <http://isip.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20110800437+2011%2404%2430&min=1>

Once imported into Poland, food products are subject to quality control based on regulations on “Trade Quality of Food Products”. [Ustawa z dnia 21 grudnia 2000 r. o jakości handlowej artykułów rolno-spożywczych](#). The regulation was released on 18th of January 2013: “Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of 18 January 2013 on

the list of agri-food products imported from abroad and the minimum amount under the control of commercial quality” (Rozporządzenie Ministra Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi z dnia 18 stycznia 2013 r. w sprawie wykazu artykułów rolno-spożywczych przywożonych z zagranicy oraz ich minimalnych ilości podlegających kontroli jakości handlowej, Polish Journal of Law 2013, No. 0, pos. 174).

The text of that law as well as the list of products and their control amounts (link in Polish only) can be found at: <http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20130000174>

In July 2010, Regulation (EC) No 258/97 was amended to prohibit use of nanotechnology in food production until the new technology’s safety could be fully confirmed. On December 18th 2013, European Commission tabled a proposal on regulation on novel foods. It revises the existing Novel Food Regulation with a view to improving access of new and innovative food to the EU market, while still maintaining a high level of consumer protection. http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biotechnology/novelfood/documents/novel-cloning_com2013-894_final_en.pdf

Food Control in Poland

The official food control in Poland is conducted by the following authorities; see Appendix for contact information of the respective organizations:

State Sanitary Inspection – Państwowa Inspekcja Sanitarna (PIS) holds responsibility for supervising the quality of food, materials, or products intended to come in contact with food. Food control (no meat included) is conducted appropriately by inspectors from Sanitary-Epidemiological Stations in districts of coverage,

State Veterinary Inspection – Państwowa Inspekcja Weterynaryjna (PIW) is the authority that conducts controls of animal health and products of animal origin,

Main Inspectorate of Plant Health and Seed Inspection – Państwowa Inspekcja Ochrony Roślin i Nasiennictwa (PIORIN) is responsible for monitoring plant health conditions, trade and use of plant protection remedies and their production, and verification and trade of seed material,

Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection – Inspekcja Jakości Handlowej Artykułów Rolno-Spożywczych (IJHARS) reports to the Minister of Agriculture and performs all tasks specified in the Act of Commercial Quality of Agricultural Food Products and national and European Community regulations including:

Quality control of food in production and sales, including exported products;

Quality control of imported food products, including border control of these articles;

Evaluation and issuance of certificates in terms of quality of food articles;

Controlling conditions of storage and transport of food;

Cooperating with official control units in other countries, exchange of information and food samples;

Coordination with the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection which also supervises the quality of food products in the retail trade;

Reporting infringements of EU food and feed legislation through the Rapid Alert System on Food and Feeds (RASFF).

Office of Competition and Consumer Protection – Urząd Ochrony Konkurencji i Konsumentów (UOKiK) is the central authority responsible for shaping the antitrust policy and consumer protection policy of the state administration. UOKiK is authorized to control mergers to prevent monopolistic situations, where a single entity may dominate the market effectively reducing consumer surplus, or similarly, dissolves cartels that negatively impact consumers.

For detailed information on structure of Polish food safety system please refer to the EC country profile: http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/country_profiles/CP_poland.pdf

Please note that the Polish Governments is conducting work aimed at combining different agencies responsible food safety system into one agency called National Food Safety Agency (Państwowa Inspekcja Bezpieczeństwa Żywności) which will report to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Parliamentary draft of the proposed new agency establishment can be obtained [here](#). It is expected that the new agency will start to operate as of January 1, 2018.

Section II. Food Additive Regulations:

The EU's "Package on Food Improvement Agents" includes four Regulations: Regulation [1331/2008](#) establishing a common authorization procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavorings, Regulation [1332/2008](#) on food enzymes, Regulation [1333/2008](#) on food additives and Regulation [1334/2008](#) on flavorings.

The common authorization procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavorings, established by Regulation [1331/2008](#) is introducing a single common procedure for the approval of food additives, flavorings and enzymes. The benefits of this common approach include simplified legislation and more consistency in the procedures used to approve additives, flavorings and enzymes with an emphasis on the safety evaluations by EFSA on which the approval procedure is based.

The implementing rules are laid down in Commission Regulation [234/2011](#), Commission implementing Regulation 562/2012, explaining the content of an application and all the data both administrative and technical that have to be submitted to the Commission. The Commission will then request EFSA to verify the suitability of the data. An application consists of a letter, a technical dossier and a summary of the dossier.

Regulation on Permitted Additives

Additives that are authorized in food and their conditions of use are listed in Annex II to the EU [Food Additives Regulation 1333/2008](#). The authorized uses of additives are listed according to the category of food to which they may be added. Annex I to regulation 1333/2008 lists the definitions of 26 different categories of food additives. Only additives included in the EU's positive list are authorized under specific conditions. An important difference from U.S. legislation is that the use of flour bleaching agents chlorine, bromates and peroxides is not allowed in the EU.

Annex III to Regulation 1333/2008 contains a second list of food additives approved for the use in food ingredients such as other food additives, food enzymes, food flavorings and nutrients. Specifications for food additives listed in Annexes II and III are laid down in [Commission Regulation 231/2012](#).

Annex IV lists traditional foods for which certain EU Member States may continue to prohibit the use of certain categories of food additives.

Annex V to Regulation 1333/2008 contains labeling information for six food colors: Quinoline Yellow (E104), Sunset Yellow (E110), Ponceau 4R (E124), Tartrazine (E102), Azorubine/Carmoisine (E122) and Allura Red AC (E129). Foods containing these colors have to be labeled "may have an adverse effect on activity and attention in children" (see also Section V – Labeling Requirements). The limits for these food colors were lowered by [Commission Regulation 232/2012](#).

A re-evaluation program set up by [Commission Regulation 257/2010](#) requires a new risk assessment carried out by EFSA for additives which were approved before Food Additives Regulation 1333/2008 entered into force.

The Polish Minister of Health regulation on permitted additives was published on April 22, 2011 (Regulation of the Minister of Health of 22 April 2011a mending the regulation on permitted additives; [Rozporządzenie Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 22 kwietnia 2011 r. zmieniające rozporządzenie w sprawie dozwolonych substancji dodatkowych](#)) in the Polish Journal of Law 2011, No. 91, pos. 525.

Regulation on Specifications and Criteria of Purity of Additives

The Polish Minister of Health regulation on specifications and criteria of purity of additives: Regulation of the Minister of Health of 12 October 2007 On specifications and purity criteria of additional substances

(Regulation of the Minister of Health of 12 October 2007 on specifications and purity criteria of additional substances; [Rozporządzenie Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 12 października 2007 r. w sprawie specyfikacji i kryteriów czystości substancji dodatkowych](#); Polish Journal of Law 2011, No. 2, pos. 3) which was published on October 12, 2007, was amended on December 23, 2010 and changed on April 22, 2011 ("Regulation of the Minister of Health of 22 April 2011 amending the ordinance on the specification and purity criteria of additional substances; [Rozporządzenie Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 22](#)

[kwietnia 2011 r. zmieniające rozporządzenie w sprawie specyfikacji i kryteriów czystości substancji dodatkowych](#)”) (Polish Journal of Law 2011, No. 91, pos. 526).

Solvents

The Polish Minister of Health regulation on solvent extraction, which can be used in the production of food: February 18, 2011 “Regulation of the Minister of Health of 22 April 2011 amending the ordinance on the specification and purity criteria of additional substances (Regulation of the Minister of Health of 18 February 2011 amending the regulation on extraction solvents which may be used in food production; [Rozporządzenie Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 18 lutego 2011 r. zmieniające rozporządzenie w sprawie rozpuszczalników ekstrakcyjnych, które mogą być stosowane w produkcji żywności](#); Polish Journal of Law 2011, No 52, pos.272).

Aromas

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council ([EC](#)) No 1334/2008 on flavorings and certain food ingredients with flavoring properties for use in and on foods was published on December 16, 2008.

Enriching Substances

The Polish Minister of Health regulation on enriching substances added to food: “Regulation of the Minister of Health of 19 December 2002 on substances added to enrich foods and their conditions of use (Regulation of the Minister of Health of 19 December 2002 on substances added to enrich foods and their conditions of use; Rozporządzenia Ministra Zdrowia z dnia 19 grudnia 2002 r. w sprawie substancji wzbogacających dodawanych do żywności i warunków ich stosowania was published on December 19, 2002; Polish Journal of Law No. 27, pos. 237). The Regulation was [amended](#) on September 16, 2010 (Polish Journal of Law 2010, No. 174, pos. 1184).

Dietary Supplements

[Regulation \(EC\) No 1925/2006](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on the addition of vitamins and minerals and of certain other substances to foods was published on December 20, 2006.

The Regulation applies without prejudice to the provisions relating to:

- [Foods for particular nutritional uses](#) ;
 - [Novel foods and novel food ingredients](#);
 - [Genetically modified foods](#) ;
 - [Food additives](#) and [flavorings](#);
 - [Oenological practices and processes](#) .

The nutrition labeling of products which vitamins and minerals have been added to and which are covered by the Regulation is compulsory. It must contain the following information: the total amounts of vitamins and minerals where they are added to a food, the amount of protein, carbohydrate, sugars, fat, saturates, fiber and sodium, and the energy value of the product in accordance with [Directive 90/496/EEC](#).

The Regulation specifies that excessive intakes of vitamins and minerals may result in adverse health effects and sets maximum quantities of vitamins and minerals added to foods. The maximum amounts take account of the upper safe levels for vitamins and minerals following a scientific risk assessment, the potential intake of vitamins and minerals from other foods, and the reference intakes of vitamins and minerals recommended for the population. Furthermore, if necessary, it also takes account of the contribution of individual products to the overall diet of the population and of the nutrient profile established in accordance with [Regulation \(EC\) No. 1924/2006](#).

Commission [Regulation \(EC\) No. 1170/2009](#) of November 30, 2009, an amendment of [Directive 2002/46/EC](#), lists the vitamins, minerals and their chemical forms that can be used in the manufacture of dietary supplements, as well as the

chemical forms of vitamins and minerals that can be added to food.

Specific Nutritional Purposes

Commission [Regulation \(EC\) No. 953/2009](#) on substances that may be added for specific nutritional purposes in foods for particular nutritional uses was published on October 13, 2009.

Complete information concerning EU additive, enzymes, flavorings, extraction solvents regulations as well as authorization procedure can be located [here](#). Additionally, consult the European Food Safety Authority's [website](#). EFSA is the keystone of European Union risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.

Section III. Pesticide and Other Contaminants:

[European Parliament and Council Regulation 1107/2009](#) sets out rules for the authorization of plant protection products (PPPs). PPPs (also referred to as 'pesticides') contain at least one approved active substance. Only PPPs containing active substances included in the list of approved active substances as established in [Commission implementing Regulation 540/2011](#) may be authorized for use in the EU.

Rules for the marketing and use of the pesticides in Poland are regulated by Law on Plant Protection Products of 8 March 2013 (Journal of Laws of 2013, pos. 455) (Law on Plant Protection Products on 8 March 2013; Ustawa o środkach ochrony roślin z dnia 8 marca 2013 roku (Dz.U. z 2013 r., poz. 455)

The Polish language text of the regulation can be found at: <http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20130000455>

Basic rules for the protection of plants against harmful organisms are available in Law on Plant Protection of 18 December 2003 (Journal of Laws of 2004 No. 11, pos. 94), Act on plant protection of 18 December 2003; (Ustawa o ochronie roślin z dnia 18 grudnia 2003 r; Dz.U. z 2004 r. Nr 11, poz. 94). Consolidated text of the law was published on March 12, 2014 (Dz.U.2014 poz. 621). It can be found at the following link:

<http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20040110094>

Additional information regarding contaminants rules in the EU can be located [here](#).

Section IV. Packaging and Container Regulations:

Size & Content

The maximum tolerable error between the actual content and the quantity indicated on the label, and methods to check this are fixed in [Council Directive 76/211/EEC](#), as amended.

[Directive 2007/45/EC](#) abolished regulations on mandatory pack sizes at both EU and national levels. The Directive frees sizes for all prepackaged products except wine and spirits, and coffee. Mandatory nominal quantities for wines and spirits are set out in the Annex to Directive 2007/45/EC.

Detailed information on “Legal Metrology” is available on the European Commission’s website <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/goods/building-blocks/legal-metrology/>.

Packaging Waste Management

Member States are required to take measures to reduce packaging waste and must introduce systems for reuse, recovery and

recycling of packaging materials. [Council Directive 94/62/EC](#) harmonizes national measures concerning the management of packaging and packaging waste and its impact on the environment. To facilitate collection, reuse and recovery including recycling, an identification system for packaging has been drawn up (Commission Decision 97/129/EC). Its use is voluntary. An overview of current EU legislation applicable to packaging and packaging waste is available on the European Commission's website <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:01994L0062-20150526&qid=1446639081652&from=EN>.

Materials in Contact with Foodstuffs

[European Parliament and Council Regulation 1935/2004](#) specifies the main requirements for all materials that come into contact with foodstuffs. It also sets out labeling and traceability requirements and the procedure for the authorization of substances through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Annex I to regulation 1935/2004 lists the group of materials which may be covered by specific measures. Specific measures set out additional requirements and include lists of authorized substances and materials. To date, [specific directives](#) have been developed for [plastic materials \(Commission Regulation 10/2011\)](#), [recycled plastic materials \(Commission Regulation 282/2008\)](#), [regenerated cellulose film \(Commission Directive 2007/42/EC\)](#) and [ceramics \(Council Directive 84/500/EC\)](#). In the case of ceramics, migration limits have been established for lead and cadmium. Materials must bear an indication "for food contact" or the symbol reproduced in Annex II to Regulation 1935/2004.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 321/2011](#), amending Regulation 10/2011 on plastic materials, bans the use of Bisphenol A in plastic infant feeding bottles.

A summary of EU and national legislation as well as guidance documents and contact information with regard to the submission of applications for authorization can be downloaded from the European Commission website at http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/chemical_safety/food_contact_materials_en.

Plastic Materials

The Polish Minister of Health regulation concerning the list of substances intended for food contact and permitted in manufacturing or processing of plastic materials and the methods of checking of compliance of those products within the set limits was published on June 22, 2007 (Polish Journal of Law 2007, No 129, pos. 904) was nullified and replaced on December 4, 2013 ("[Regulation of the Minister of Health of 15 October 2013 regarding the list of substances whose use is permitted in the manufacture or processing of materials and plastic products, as well as how to check the compatibility of these materials and articles with the established limits.](#)")

A comprehensive list of EU regulations regarding plastic for foodstuffs can be found [here](#).

Commission [Regulation EU/558/2010](#) concerning specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin was published on June 24, 2009. The Regulation specifies requirements in terms of temperature and microbiological criteria in the production of foie gras, meat from poultry and lagomorphs, frozen fish in brine. In addition, sea snails are excluded from the legislation of classifying production areas. This classification is necessary for bivalve mollusks, live echinoderms, and tunicates. The requirements for the transport of live bivalve mollusks in containers are tightened and the specification of raw materials used for gelatin production is changed.

Materials other than Plastics

The Polish Minister of Health regulation concerning the list of substances intended for food contact and permitted in manufacturing or processing of materials and products from materials other than plastics ("[Regulation of the Minister of Health of 15 January 2008 regarding the list of substances whose use is permitted in the manufacture or processing of materials and products from other materials than plastics intended to come into contact with food.](#)") was published on January 15, 2008 (Polish Journal of Law 2008, No. 17, pos. 113).

Section V. Labeling Requirements:

General Requirements

On December 13, 2014, the EU's "[Food Information to Consumers](#)" (FIC) regulation 1169/2011 became applicable. It introduced new obligations and changes to the existing rules set out in Directive 2000/13/EC.

Key changes introduced by the FIC regulation include:

- Nutrition labeling become mandatory on December 13, 2016
 - Minimum font size for printing mandatory information is established,
 - New format for allergen labeling is set out: allergens must be highlighted in the list of ingredients – “allergen boxes” are no longer allowed,
 - Voluntary front-of-pack labeling must follow a new set format,
 - Country of origin labeling is extended to more products (see “Checklist”),
 - Durability date AND “frozen on” date must be indicated on frozen products,
 - “Use by date” must be indicated on individual pre-packed portions,
- Specific treatments such as “refrozen”, “concentrated”, “smoked”, powdered” must be added to the product name,
 - Presence of engineered nanomaterials must be indicated,
 - Alcoholic strength by volume for beverages containing more than 1.2 percent of alcohol by volume must appear in the same field of vision as the product name,
 - Proteins added to meat products that are of a different animal origin must be declared in the list of ingredients,
 - Presence of added water must be declared on meat and fishery products if the added water makes up more than 5 percent of the finished product,
 - Vegetable origin of oils and fats must be indicated in the list of ingredients.

The legislation update deals with the issues of label visibility, font size; font and background contrast, and regulates the obligation to inform about allergens, such as peanuts or dairy on product packaging. According to the new Regulation, the obligation of country of origin labeling is extended to fresh meat: pork, poultry, goat, and sheep. The Regulation additionally requires nutrition information for processed foodstuffs. The new Regulation will allow consumers to more easily distinguish products that are similar to other products but that are produced from different ingredients, e.g. cheese-like products.

Foodstuffs intended for sale to the final consumer, for restaurants, hospitals and other mass caterers must comply with the labeling legislation. The labeling, presentation, and advertising of foodstuffs must not mislead the consumer about the foodstuff's characteristics or effects, or attribute properties for the prevention, treatment, or cure of a human illness to a foodstuff.

Flavorings: Annex III to the labeling directive describes the way of designating flavorings in the list of ingredients. Specific requirements for the use of the term “natural” to describe a flavoring are set out in Article 16 of European Parliament and Council Regulation 1334/2008. For more information see Section IV “Food Additive Regulations.”

Additional information concerning new EU food labeling can be found Brussels USEU report “How to Comply with the EU's New Food Labeling Rules” – available via “Attache Reports” link at fas.usda.gov

Basic Laws on Food Labeling in Poland

Polish labeling is regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. On July 31, 2007, the basic law on food labeling: [Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development dated July 10 2007 regarding labeling of foodstuffs](#), was published (Polish Journal of Law 2007, No. 137, pos. 966). Its amendment was released on [January 8, 2015](#). (Polish Journal of Law 2015, pos. 29). Food labeling is also regulated by the [Polish Food Safety Law](#) (Polish Journal of Law 2006, No 171, pos. 1225), which was amended on January 8, 2010: [Modification to the Polish Food Safety Law of 2006](#): (Polish Journal of Law 2010, No 21, pos. 105). EU Law was also amended to reflect European Council Regulation 1169/2011 on consumer information relating to food products.

Compulsory Information on Labels

The standard U.S. label fails to comply with Polish labeling requirements as it is not in Polish. Compulsory information must appear in the Polish language on the pre-packaging or on a label attached to it with a sticker. The information must be marked in such a way that it is easily visible, clearly legible, and indelible:

- Product Name – Clearly inform the buyer about the type of foodstuff, should clearly differentiate it from other similar foods, and should clearly contain information on the form of food or processes used in production,
 - List of Ingredients, in descending order of weight – Include permitted additional substances and allergenic ingredients present in the product, even in modified form (i.e., soy lecithin). The following ingredients require a specific statement on the label: GMO's, packaging gases, sweeteners, certain food colorings, aspartame and polyols, quinine and caffeine, phytosterols and phyostanols and licorice. Additionally, EU/1169/2011 requires listing the presence of nano-ingredients,
 - Nutritive Value – Information must include: energy value, fat, saturated fatty acids, carbohydrates, sugars, protein, and salt. The information must be presented as calculated per 100 g or 100 ml and additionally it can be presented as a Recommended Daily Intake (RDI). The obligation to inform about nutritive value does not apply to some products, e.g. unprocessed food or foodstuffs containing low energy value (e.g. spices tea or coffee). On July 25, 2007, the Polish law on food labeling by nutritive value: [Regulation of the Minister of Health dated July 25 2007 regarding labeling of nutritional value of food](#), was published (Polish Journal of Law 2007, No 137, pos. 967) and was [amended](#) on January 8, 2010 (Polish Journal of Law 2010, No 9, pos. 63) with further revisions applied through [Regulation of the Minister of Health of 26 July 2016 regarding groups of foodstuffs for sale to children and young people in the units of the education system and the requirements to be met by the foods used in the context of public nutrition of children and young people in those units.](#) Please note that introduction of information about the nutritive value is enforced as of December 13, 2016,
 - Allergens – On November 2014, the European Commission launched a public consultation on a [Guidance Document on Allergen Labeling](#). The consultation closed on January 4, 2015. For more information please consult DG SANTE's website: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/dgs_consultations/food/consult_20150104_allergy-intolerance_en.htm.

Other Labeling Requirements

- Certain ingredients may be designated by the name of the category rather than the specific name (Annex I to Directive 2000/13/EC). These include fats, oils (note that peanut oil is also subject to the new allergen rules), starch, fish, cheese, spices, herbs, gum bases, crumbs, sugar, dextrose, glucose syrup, milk proteins, cocoa butter, crystallized fruit, vegetables and wine,
 - Date of minimum durability: Poland strictly enforces the EU date format requirement of: dd/mm/yyyy. The shelf life is indicated by words "Best before..." ("Najlepiej spożyć przed dd/mm/yyyy") when the date includes an indication of the day; "Best before end of..." ("Należy spożyć do dd/mm/yyyy") in other cases. Storage and use instructions must also appear on the label, as necessary,
 - Name or business name and address of the manufacturer, packager, or the seller established within the EU Community,
 - Details of the place of origin,
 - Net quantity of prepackaged foodstuffs expressed in metric units (liter, centiliter, milliliter, kilogram, or gram),
 - Special storage conditions or conditions of use – if the food label contains information about the date and shelf-life and also when the quality of the food significantly depends on the conditions of storage,
 - The actual alcoholic strength for beverages containing more than 1.2 percent alcohol by volume,
 - A mark to identify the lot to which a foodstuff belongs, determined by the producer, manufacturer or packager or by the first seller in the EU, for traceability. The marking must be preceded by the letter "L," except in cases when it is clearly distinguishable from other indications on the label. The lot identification is not necessary if the date (day and month) of minimum durability or "use by" date, appears in un-coded form on the label,
 - Treatments undergone, with specific indications for irradiated foods and deep-frozen foods,
 - Description how to prepare or use, if there is no information here, it could result in inappropriate

- conduct with the foodstuff, such as "eat cooked",
- Batch designation - information about the batch, certain quantity of the products manufactured, processed, or packaged having a uniform quality,
- Quality grade - if it was fixed in the regulations on the detailed requirements for the quality of food products or their groups,
- In case of meat products, raw meat products and fish products which may give an impression of being one piece of meat or fish, a statement "from blended pieces of meat" or "from blended pieces of fish" should be added,
- In case of frozen meat and fishery products, a date of freezing or date of first freezing in case of products frozen several times, must be placed on a label,
- In case of protein additive to the product, information about its presence and origin must be placed on a label.

In addition, it is permitted to label the packaged foodstuff, with a surface area of less than 10 cm, by giving, at the minimum, the following information:

- Name of food product
 - Date of minimum durability
 - Net quantity or a number of foodstuff pieces packed

Note: the use of the EAN (European Article Number - renamed International Article Number) product coding system is not regulated by EU law. However, this bar code system is commonly used in the EU to fulfill the traceability requirement, mandatory since January 1, 2005.

General principles of marketing and labeling of Organic products are determined in The Law on Organic Agriculture on 25 June 2009 (Journal of Laws No. 116, pos. 975). The Law is implementing the rules of the Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on the production and labeling of organic products.

<http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20091160975> .

As of January 1, 2017 a new regulations on voluntary marking of foodstuffs with the words "Produkt polski" (Made in Poland) is likely to go into effect in Poland. The new act after being approved by lower house of Parliament is currently going through approval process of the upper house of Polish Parliament. Manufacturers will be able to place logo "Produkt Polski" on products produced in Poland with the use of Polish raw materials and containing no more than 25 percent components derived from imported ingredients (this percent does not include water content). Meat used in products marked with logo "Produkt Polski" should be "derived from animals born on the Polish territory and whose breeding and slaughter took place on Polish territory.

Labeling Irregularities

The most frequent and common irregularities, found during store inspections, in labeling found by Polish inspections include:

- Lack of complete identification of the manufacturer, for example: no address, no contact information;
 - Providing incorrect information on the composition of the foodstuff, such as incomplete list of ingredients (lack of information on allergenic ingredients, food additives; overstatements in meat content) or the ingredients are not indicated in descending order
 - No percentage of ingredients specification used in production, such as lack of hazelnuts content in "milk chocolate with hazelnuts";
 - Providing misleading information in the matter of composition, nature and source of the foodstuff, such as inscription: "Bio ..." on non-organic product, suggesting that the product is environmentally friendly;
 - Using graphic signs suggesting that the product is a different product than it is, for example, the image of ham and sausages on the offal packaging;
 - No additional substance and no technological function provided in description, such as lack of technological features used in citric acid;
 - Improper use of the product name, such as "wine" in relation to fermented wine;

- In the case of fruit and vegetables - lack of qualitative characteristics of products (grade, size, if sorted by plurality) as well as type name;
- Another type of incompatibility related to physical and chemical parameters or sensory evaluation.

Food Traceability

Under EU law traceability is compulsory by [Regulation EC/178/2002](#). Traceability is the ability to track food, feed, food-producing animal or substance that will be used for consumption, through all stages of production, processing and distribution. Traceability allows immediate response to potential risks that can arise in food and feed, to ensure that all food products in the EU are safe for consumption. It is vital that when national authorities or food businesses identify a risk they can trace it back to its source in order to swiftly isolate the problem and prevent contaminated products from reaching consumers. In addition, traceability allows targeted withdrawals and the provision of accurate information to the public, thereby minimizing disruption to trade.

All food and feed operators implement special traceability systems. The EU has published guidelines which require business operators to document the names and addresses of the supplier and customer in each case, as well as the nature of the product and date of delivery. Operators are also encouraged to keep information on the volume or quantity of a product, the batch number if there is one, and a more detailed description of the product, such as whether it is raw or processed. A food traceability factsheet can be found [here](#).

Medical/Health/Nutrition Claims

Commission [Regulation \(EC\) No. 1924/2006](#) concerning the nutrition and health claims in foodstuffs was published on December 20, 2006. [The following Regulation \(EC\) No 109/2008 was released on 15 January 2008.](#)

In December 2011, the European Commission proposed a list of 222 functional health claims for substances other than botanicals. More than two years after the due date set by Regulation 1924/2006, the list of EU-approved functional health claims and their conditions of use was finally adopted on May 25, 2012. Regulation 432/2012 establishing the EU positive list becomes applicable on December 14, 2012. Anyone will be able to use the permitted health claims provided the conditions set out in Regulation 432/2012 are met. The EU's online "Register of Nutrition and Health Claims" has been updated not only with the 222 authorized health claims but also with the more than 1600 rejected claims and the reasons for their non-authorization. Health claims referring to botanical substances have been put on hold because the Commission and the Member States are discussing the potential conflict of the Health Claims Regulation with the Traditional Herbal Medicinal Products Directive. All claims that are not authorized and not on hold or under consideration are prohibited as of December 14, 2012. Food products carrying claims must comply with the provisions of nutritional labeling are set out in [Nutrition & Health Claims Regulation 1924/2006](#), and [Regulation 432/2012](#).

Food Labeling of Supplements and Foodstuffs for Particular, Nutritional Use

Please note that Poland takes a much stricter approach with diet supplements labeling than other EU countries. Polish regulations require the wording "diet supplement" ("suplement diety") to be used with the product brand name wherever the brand name is mentioned on the product label.

On May 18, 2010, the regulation changing the composition and labeling of dietary supplements: [Regulation of the Minister of Health dated May 18, 2010 amending the regulation on the composition and labeling of dietary supplements](#), was published (Polish Journal of Law, No. 91, pos. 596).

On September 16, 2010, a new regulation on foodstuffs for special nutritional diet: [Regulation of the Minister of Health of dated September 16, 2010 regarding foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses](#), (Polish Journal of Law 2010, No. 180, pos. 1214) was published.

Marketing Quality of Agricultural Food Products

The basic law on market quality of agricultural food products [The Act of October 24, 2008 Amending the Act on the commercial quality of agri-food products and some other acts](#), was published October 24, 2008 (Polish Journal of Law 2008, No. 214, pos. 1346).

Section VI. Other Specific Standards:

Imports of Bovine Genetics

Imports of bovine genetics to Poland are based on requirements outlined in the Commission [Decision 2008/120/EC](#) dated February 7, 2008, that amended Council Directive 88/407/EEC and Commission Decision 2004/639/EC laying down the importation conditions of semen of domestic animals of bovine species.

In addition to the EU regulations, exporters must follow Polish regulations on imported genetic material. The Polish regulation is based on the breeding law implemented in August 2007 (<http://isap.sejm.gov.pl/DetailsServlet?id=WDU20071330921>).

Bovine semen of U.S. origin must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate, included in 2008/120/EC, and documents confirming the breeding value of the bull from which the semen derives.

Genetically Modified Foods

Since 2006, Poland has officially opposed approval of any event of biotechnology at the EU level, and has taken steps to become “GMO-free.” In 2006, Poland passed legislation that banned the sale and registration of biotech seeds, restricted Polish representatives to the European Parliament from supporting pro-biotechnology legislative proposals, and prohibited the importation, production, and use of animal feed containing ingredients enhanced through biotechnology beginning in August 2008. Two Polish Presidents have authorized continuation of a delay in implementation of provisions of the law governing animal feed. The first continuation went through January 1, 2013. The second is now through January 1, 2017.

On December 21, 2012, President Komorowski signed amendments into the Law of the Seed to bring Polish law closer to compliance with EU legislation related to market access of registered seeds. The signed amendment permitted registration of seeds of any origin in the national seed bank, a prerequisite for commercial activity in Poland. On January 2, 2013 the Polish Council of Ministers, at the request of the Minister of Agriculture, re-authorized its 2008 framework position on biotechnology and permitted the Ministry to ban cultivation of seeds enhanced through biotechnology through application of the EU safeguard clause. On January 28, 2013, the ban on cultivation of seed enhanced through biotechnology entered into force in tandem with implementation of the amended Law of the Seed.

On September 24, 2013 the Polish Minister of Agriculture stated that Poland is currently free from “GE” crop cultivation based on over 9,000 checks on corn farms conducted in 2013.

Poland’s Feed Act of 22 July 2006 (OJ 2006 No. 144, item.1045) includes prohibition on the manufacture, marketing and use in animal nutrition genetically modified feed and genetically modified organisms intended for feed use. In practice the ban has been suspended by the Polish Parliament until January 1st, 2017. On November 4, 2016, the Parliament voted in favor of the Act, but modified the prolongation of the ban’s suspension until January 1st, 2019.

For more information about biotechnology in Poland refer to FAS/Warsaw Reports on plant and animal biotechnology available at www.fas.usda.gov Attaché Reports link.

Additional information on agricultural biotechnology in the Eu can be located at: <http://www.usda-eu.org/trade-with-the-eu/eu-import-rules/agricultural-biotechnology/>

Novel Foods

For detail information on novel foods please refer to the website of the State Sanitary Inspection (<http://gis.gov.pl/dep/?lang=en&dep=14&id=29>).

Traceability and Labeling of Genetically Modified Foods

Labeling regulations for genetically modified (GM) food products are established by Regulation 1829/2003 (articles 12-13). These rules apply to products that have undergone varying degrees of processing. The regulation does not require labeling of food products that are not food ingredients, such as processing aids. Meat, milk or eggs obtained from animals fed with GM feed or treated with GM medicinal products do not require GM labeling.

The traceability rules require all business operators to transmit and retain information on GM products in order to identify both the supplier and the buyer of the GM product.

“Low Level Presence” (LLP)

On June 24 2011, the EU adopted Commission Regulation 619/2011 setting a tolerance of 0.1 percent - “Low Level Presence” (LLP) - for adventitious traces of non EU-authorized GMOs in feed imports. For more information see the European Commission press release “Questions and Answers on the low level presence (LLP) of GMOs in feed imports.” The Commission may come forward with proposals dealing with LLP in food imports.

For more information on biotechnology and biotech products consult the 2016 EU28 Agricultural Biotechnology Annual GAIN Report (http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Agricultural%20Biotechnology%20Annual_Paris_EU-28_12-6-2016.pdf).

[Regulation \(EC\) No 1829/2003](#) (articles 12-13) of the European Parliament and of the Council of September 22, 2003 concerning the traceability and labeling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms and amends [Directive 2001/18/EC](#).

The European Union sets out a framework for guaranteeing the traceability of GMOs throughout the food chain, including in processed foods in which the production methods have destroyed or altered the genetically modified DNA (e.g. in oils). These rules apply not only to GMOs to be used in food, but also those intended to be used in crops (e.g. seeds). The European Union has two main objectives: to inform consumers through compulsory labeling, giving them the freedom to choose, and to create a "safety net" based on the traceability of GMOs at all stages of production and emergence on the market. This "safety net" will facilitate the monitoring of labeling, the surveillance of the potential effects on human health or the environment, and the withdrawal of products in cases of risk to human health or the environment and is similar to the system used for conventional food products. For animals, producers must tag each animal with origin details and when animals are taken for slaughter, the must be stamped with the traceability code of the abattoir. The traceability methods, ear tags, passports, or bar codes, vary across countries but must include the same information.

Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003 includes:

All products which consist of GMOs or which contain them (this includes fields as diverse as the products which are intended for entry into the human or animal food chain, products destined for industrial processing for uses other than consumption (e.g. in the production of biofuel) or even products destined to be used ornamentally (e.g. in the production of cut flowers);

Foodstuffs and animal feed products made from GMOs.

Operators must transmit the following information in writing: an indication that the products consist of or contain GMOs, and [the unique identifiers](#) assigned to the GMOs. If the product is a mixture of GMOs, the industrial operator may submit a declaration of use of these products, together with a list of the unique identifiers assigned to all the GMOs used to constitute the mixture. This information must also be held for five years.

The operators who place pre-packaged products on the market consisting of or containing GMOs must, at all stages of the production and distribution chain, ensure that the words "This product contains genetically modified organisms" or "Product

produced from GM (name of organism)" appear on a label of the product. In the case of products, including in large quantities, which are not packaged and if the use of a label is impossible, the operator must ensure that this information is transmitted with the product. It may take the form of accompanying documents, for example. When placing a product on the market, the operator must transmit the following information in writing to the operator receiving the product: Firstly, an indication of each food ingredient produced from GMOs; Secondly, an indication of each raw material or additive for feeding stuffs produced from GMOs; and finally, if there is no list of ingredients, the product must bear an indication that it is produced from GMOs.

Commission [Regulation \(EU\) No. 619/2011](#) sets a tolerance of 0.1 percent - "Low Level Presence" (LLP) - for adventitious traces of non EU-authorized GMOs in feed imports.

For more information on biotechnology and biotech products consult the 2016 EU28 Agricultural Biotechnology Annual GAIN Report (http://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Agricultural%20Biotechnology%20Annual_Paris_EU-28_12-6-2016.pdf).

Section VII. Facility and Product Registration Requirements:

The EU approves establishments to ship products of animal origin based on submissions from U.S. government agencies. Only products processed in approved establishments may enter the EU. Detailed information on approved U.S. establishments is available on our website at <http://www.usda-eu.org/trade-with-the-eu/eu-import-rules/certification/>. Third country lists per sector and per country are published on the European Commission's website https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/non_eu_listsPerCountry_en.htm.

Section VIII. Other Regulations and Requirements:

Value Added Tax (VAT) Poland applies a VAT for agricultural and food products either imported or produced domestically and ranges from 5 to 23 percent depending on level of processing of the product.

5 percent VAT - applied to unprocessed food like fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, fish, flavorings and also processed food like dairy products, fish products, floury products, fruit preserves, ready-to-cook meals
8 percent VAT - applied to all remaining unprocessed foods
23 percent VAT - applied to highly processed food products

Poland also applies an Excise tax, which is an indirect tax levied on certain goods such as: beer, wine, liquor, tobacco products, fuel, electricity, and cars. In Poland, the excise tax is harmonized with the EU tax levied on each product. Excise tax rates on certain products can be determined by individual EU country but must not be lower than the levels found in EU directives.

Some excise products are subject to obligatory marking by excise strips, which need to be placed on individual product packaging. These regulations are obligatory for alcoholic beverages (except beer) and tobacco products. In case of bulk shipments of wine and alcoholic beverages (other than beer) the excise strips need to be placed on products prior to entering the EU. It is a standard procedure for the importer to supply the exporter with excise bands, to be put on products prior to shipping. Imported products must have excise tax stickers on them before entering Poland (based on a partial pre-payment). Once the product enters the country, the remainder of the tax must be paid.

A new law changing the Law on Excise Tax was published on October 29, 2010 ([Polish Journal of Law 2010, No. 226, pos. 1477](#)), which was amended and then published September 28, 2015 ([Polish Journal of Law 2015, pos. 1479](#)). The new law is in line with Council [Directive 2010/12/EU](#) from February 16, 2010 concerning the structure and tax values on tobacco products.

A list of VAT rates applicable in the different Member States can be found on the Internet at http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/resources/documents/taxation/vat/how_vat_works/rates/vat_rates_en.pdf.

A list of excise duties applicable on alcoholic beverages and tobacco can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/excise_duties/index_en.htm

Section IX. Import Procedures:

An importer of a product new to the Polish market can request pre-approval (i.e., prior to export) of a product by submitting a letter to health authorities requesting a permit for product entry (“powiadomienie”). The following documentations are required to request a pre-approval permit:

- Copy of invoice;
- Any required certificates (e.g. Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness);
 - Producer’s laboratory analysis, if available (to speed up the clearance process);
 - Draft Polish language label that includes all product ingredients.

On average, the pre-approval process takes about one month and can speed entry of a product to the Polish marketplace. If pre-approval clearance is not requested, full product testing may be implemented and the product held at the border until testing is completed. If pre-approved, a product can be cleared at the Polish border with the following routine trade documentation:

- Importer’s request for sanitary inspection (3 copies);
- Invoice - on its basis the customs value of goods is declared;
 - Specification of goods or the list of goods, if the invoice does not meet the role of specification;
 - Documents from which the tax determination on the goods can be ascertained, if the invoice or other document used to determine the customs value of goods does not contain the necessary data to determine the tax base;
 - Transportation document (i.e. airway bill);
 - Certificate issued by the manufacturer or an authorized research facility containing the chemical composition of raw materials and goods (up to 100%) and the information required in the notes to individual chapters of the Customs Tariff, if such document is necessary to determine the tariff classification of goods; Health Certificate/Phytosanitary Certificate/Microbiological Certificate;
 - Additional documentation from producer confirming products production standards (laboratory tests, certificates etc.) the license, permit or other documents, if required in connection with the import;
 - Official translation of all documents in the Polish language.

The EU uses the Combined Nomenclature (CN) for the customs classification of goods. The CN eight digit code numbers are based on the Harmonized System (HS) nomenclature: the first six digits refer to the HS headings; the two following digits represent the CN subheadings. The EU’s [on-line “Taric” customs database](#) can be consulted to look up commodity codes and relevant import duties. Taric is a multilingual database covering all measures relating to tariff and trade legislation. The [EU’s 2017 Tariff Schedule](#) was published on October 28, 2016 in Official Journal L 294. A list of Member State customs authorities can be found at https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/national-customs-websites_en.

Business operators can obtain Binding Tariff Information (BTI) from a member state’s customs authority in order to get the proper product classification and relevant import duty. A BTI decision is legally binding in all the Member States. A BTI used to be valid for six years but the new UCC reduces the validity from six to three years. U.S. exporters should be aware that the new UCC makes the declaration of a BTI decision mandatory when completing customs formalities where before the BTI declaration was not legally required. All BTI decisions issued by the Member States’ customs authorities are entered into an [EBTI-database](#). The customs value of a good is the CIF price at the European border derived from the product price found on the invoice and the transportation costs reflected in the airway bill or the bill of lading.

Novel food products must undergo a different registration procedure with health authorities (Main Sanitary Inspection).

Note: Novel foods are foods, and food ingredients, that have not been used for human consumption to a significant degree within the Community before May 15, 1997.

Products Already in the EU Market

If an importer of a product already present in the EU provides a letter from the producer confirming this fact, the product can be allowed to enter Poland without additional clearance. The producer must provide the confirmation. There is no special format for such a letter, except that it must be in the Polish language.

Plant Products

[Regulation of the Minister of Health dated February 14, 2007 regarding the application form for the border inspection and certificate of compliance with health requirements.](#) (Polish Journal of Law 2007, No 44, pos. 286) provides an example of application for the border sanitary control and for certificate of compliance with health requirements for Poland.

For a list of border crossings through which foodstuffs and materials meant to be in contact with food (subjected to the border sanitary control) may be introduced into the European Community see: [Regulation of the Minister of Health of September 24, 2007 regarding the list of border crossings competent to carry out border sanitary control.](#) (Polish Journal of Law 2007, No 196, pos. 1423)

Products of Animal Origin

The law on Veterinary border inspection was published on February 20, 2014 (<http://www.infor.pl/akt-prawny/DZU.2014.062.0000424.ustawa-o-weterynaryjnej-kontroli-granicznej.html>). General policies and procedures of veterinary border control in inspection posts are available at the web page of the General Veterinary Inspectorate and are available at: http://old.wetgiw.gov.pl/index?action=szczegoly&m_id=33. Current information on Veterinary Border Inspection Points is available at: http://old.wetgiw.gov.pl/index.php?action=szczegoly&m_id=33&kat_id=1609

Chemical Substances and Preparations

The regulation concerning chemical substances and preparations introduced into Poland, changing regulations from 2001: [Act amending the Act on chemical substances and preparations dated January 9, 2009.](#), was published on January 9, 2009 (Polish Journal of Law 2009, No. 20, pos. 106)

Section X. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws:

In the EU, trademarks can be registered at the national, regional or EU level. Trademarks registered at the national level are protected in one EU Member State. Applications must be submitted directly to the relevant national IP-office ([full list of national offices](#)). Currently, there is only one regional-level IP office in the EU, i.e. the Benelux Office which registers trademarks for three Member States: Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. Applications for the protection of a trademark in all EU Member States must be submitted to the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). An online application costs 850 EUR. Full details on the registration process are available on the [EUIPO website](#). Rules on the protection of trademarks in the EU are set in EU [Directive 2015/2436](#).

Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Krzysztof Jurgiel – Minister
ul. Wspólna 30
00-930 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 623 1510 Fax: (+48-22) 623 1788
<http://www.minrol.gov.pl/eng/content/view/full/5927>

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Department of Plant Breeding and Protection
Bogusław Rzeznicki – Director
Email: boguslaw.rzeznicki@minrol.gov.pl

Tel: (+48-22) 623 1837 Fax: (+48-22) 623 1781
<http://www.minrol.gov.pl/eng/content/view/full/11477>

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Department of Plant Breeding and Protection
Małgorzata Woźniak – GMO Specialist
Email: malgorzata.wozniak@minrol.gov.pl
Tel: (+48-22) 623 2336 Fax: (+48-22) 628 8784
<http://www.bip.minrol.gov.pl/>

General Veterinary Inspectorate
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Dr. Włodzimierz Skorupski – CVO
E-mail: wlodzimierz.skorupski@wetgiw.gov.pl
Tel.: (+48-22) 623 2203/2089 Fax: (+48-22) 623 1408
http://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/index.php?action=art&a_id=1931

Main Inspectorate of Plant Health and Seed Inspection
(Państwowa Inspekcja Ochrony Roslin i Nasiennictwa)
Mr. Andrzej Chodkowski – Main Inspector
Email: a.chodkowski@piorin.gov.pl
11 Jana Pawła II
00-828 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 652 9290/620 2824 Fax: (+48-22) 654 5221
<http://piorin.gov.pl/>

Inspectorate for Trade Quality Control of Agricultural Food Products
ul. Wspólna 30
00-930 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 623 2900 Fax: (+48-22) 623 2998
Email: sekretariat@ijhars.gov.pl
<http://www.ijhars.gov.pl/>

Main Sanitary Inspection
(Główny Inspektorat Sanitarny - GIS)
Mr. Marek Posobkiewicz – Chief Sanitary Inspector
ul. Targowa 65
03-729 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 536 1302 Fax: (+48-22) 635 9290
Email: inspektorat@gis.gov.pl
<http://www.gis.gov.pl/?lang=en&go=news>

Ministry of Environment
Department of Environmental Protection
Senior specialist for GMO – Joanna Rybak
Tel: (+48-22) 579 2723 Fax: (+48-22) 579 2730
E-mail: joanna.rybak@mos.gov.pl
<http://www.mos.gov.pl/?j=en>

Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:

National Food and Nutrition Institute
(Instytut Żywności i Żywienia)
Professor Mirosław Jarosz – Director
ul. Powsińska 61/63

02-903 Warsaw
Tel. (+48-22) 842 2171/ 550 9677
E-mail: jarosz@izz.waw.pl
<http://www.izz.waw.pl/en/>

State Hygiene Office (Państwowy Zakład Higieny – PZH)
Prof. Mirosław J. Wysocki – Director
ul. Chocimska 24
00-971 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 542 1328 Fax: (+48-22) 849 7441
E-mail: k.ludwicki@pzh.gov.pl
<http://www.pzh.gov.pl/en/>

Voivodship Sanitary Station in Warsaw (SANEPID) - actual tests & check ups
Małgorzata Czerniawska-Ankiersztejn
ul. Żelazna 79
00-875 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 620 3719 Fax: (+48-22) 624 1423
E-mail : sekretariat@wsse.waw.pl
<http://www.wsse.waw.pl/>

Polish Center for Research and Certification (Polskie Centrum Badan i Certyfikacji)
Dr Wojciech Henrykowski – Main Director
ul. Kłobucka 23A
02-699 Warsaw
Tel: (+48-22) 464 5201 Fax: (+48-22) 647 1222
Email: pcbp@pcbp.gov.pl
<https://www.pcbc.gov.pl/>

For additional information concerning market entry, other import requirements, and a current importer list, U.S. exporters of agricultural products and commodities contact:

Embassy of the United States of America
Office of Agricultural Affairs
Warsaw, Poland
Tel: (+48-22) 504 2336
E-mail: agwarsaw@fas.usda.gov

End of the Report.