

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Voluntary Public

Date: 4/8/2013

GAIN Report Number: BK1303

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Post: Sarajevo

Halal Products Market Brief

Report Categories:

Product Brief

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Report Highlights:

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) has 47 certified halal producers that produce more than 2,000 halal products. The Agency for Halal Quality Certification is a single institution in BiH that certifies products according to requirements of BiH's Halal standard BAS 1049:2007. To date most certified products are from the meat, confectionary, dairy, grain, and fruit and vegetable industry. Southeast Europe's halal market is estimated to have 20 million customers, including non- Muslims. Companies that wish to export to BiH should make sure that their products are in accordance to BIH's Halal standard. The border and customs clearance procedures are standard as for all other food products.

General Information:

Halal production has become an important part of Bosnia and Herzegovina's (BiH) economy. The country is producing more than 2,000 halal products and is one of the most important producers of halal products in the region. The Agency for Halal Quality Certification (AHQC) is a single halal certificate provider established in 2006 by the Islamic Community in BiH. It is a specialized institution for certification of halal products, certification of manufacturers and services, and monitoring of requirements of halal standard BAS 1049:2007 in companies that have implemented the standard.

BiH's Halal standard is registered with the Institute for Standardization as a national standard for Halal foods. The standard covers food, cosmetics, medicaments and personal care products. The main activity of the AHQC is Halal certification, education, consultancy and promotion. According to the AHQC, BiH has become the regional leader in halal certification - AHQC has offices in Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro, and has certified 110 companies in the region so far.

The AHQC reports that the number of halal product consumers far exceeds the number of Muslims in BiH because halal products are also consumed by non-Muslims. The number of certified producers in BiH is currently 47. Interest in halal production and certification is extremely high, especially in the food and pharmaceutical industries. To date the most certified products are meat, confectionary, dairy, grain, and fruit and vegetables. The Southeastern European halal market is estimated to have 20 million customers of which one third are Muslims and two-thirds are non-Muslims. There is no specific information on the size of BiH's market for halal products.

Companies that wish to export to BiH should make sure that their products comply with BiH's [Halal standard BAS 1049:2007](#) (click on attached hyperlink to www.halal.ba site for guidance in English).

U.S. halal certificates are recognized and accepted if they are in accordance with the BAS standard. The border and customs clearance procedures are the same as for all other food products. For example, animal origin products should be accompanied by a standard veterinary/health certificate and plant products should be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate.

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