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## Russian Federation

**Post:** Moscow

### Russia Bans Transit of Embargoed Goods through Belarus

**Report Categories:**

Agriculture in the News

Trade Policy Monitoring

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**Report Highlights:**

On November 21, 2014, Russia's Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) issued field instructions to its regional offices, which effectively ban the transit of goods of plant and animal origin that are subject to Russia's August 2014 import ban, through the territory of the Republic of Belarus. Transit of such goods to third countries, including Kazakhstan, is to be allowed only through checkpoints located at the Russian part of the external border of the Customs Union. Talks between the two countries, as well as Kazakhstan and the Eurasian Economic Commission are ongoing and will continue into next week to determine how to implement Russia's instructions.

### General Information:

On November 21, 2014, Russia's Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) issued field instructions to its regional offices, which effectively ban the transit of goods of plant and animal origin that are subject to Russia's August 2014 import ban, through the territory of the Republic of Belarus. Transit of such goods to third countries, including Kazakhstan, is to be allowed only through checkpoints located at the Russian part of the external border of the Customs Union.



Talks between the two countries, as well as Kazakhstan and the Eurasian Economic Commission are ongoing and will continue into next week to determine how to implement Russia's instructions.

VPSS field instructions of November 21, 2014, can be found as follows:

- [VPSS field instructions regarding transit of products of animal origin.](#)
- [VPSS field instructions regarding transit of plant products.](#)

Unofficial translations of the VPSS field instructions of November 21, 2014, can be found below.

For the list of affected products of plant and animal origin please see GAIN report [RS1455 Amended List of Banned US Agricultural Products.](#)

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
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November 21, 2014 No. FS-NV-7/22886

In response to \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

1 To Heads of Territorial Divisions of  
Rosselkhoznadzor

(according to the list)

The Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision informs of the following.

In connection with the gross violations during the transit through the territory of the Republic of Belarus of goods that are subject to veterinary surveillance and are included in the list, approved by Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 778 of August 7, 2014 on the implementation of the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 560 of August 6, 2014 "About the application of certain special economic measures in order to protect the national security of the Russian Federation" (hereinafter – the goods,) Rosselkhoznadzor informs that as of November 30, 2014, transit of such goods through the checkpoints of the Republic of Belarus is prohibited.

The import of such goods destined for consignees in Kazakhstan and third countries for their subsequent transit in the territory of the Russian Federation as of November 30, 2014, will be allowed only through the checkpoints located at the Russian part of the external border of the Customs Union: MAPP (Translator's note: *International Automobile Border-Crossing Point*) "Ivangorod," MAPP "Burachki," MAP "Torfyonovka," MAPP "Troyebortnoye," MAPP "Shumilkino," MAPP "Pytalovo," ZhDPP (Translator's note: *Railway Border-Crossing Point*) "Skangali," ZhDPP "Valuyki," and ZhDPP "Suzemka," and Russian ports.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that the transit of such goods to the Republic of Kazakhstan shall take place upon permits issued by the Committee of Veterinary Control and Surveillance of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan and indicating Russian checkpoints on the external border of the Customs Union, while the transit of such goods to third countries shall take place upon Rosselkhoznadzor permits.

Simultaneously, in order to avoid an exacerbation of the traffic situation at the checkpoints we request that prior to the dispatch of the vehicle from the exporting country to the consignees in the Republic of Kazakhstan and others you inform the railway transport companies about the need to get a clearance of the veterinary control bodies at the stated checkpoints to ensure that Rosselkhoznadzor permits for transit to third countries and permits of the Committee of Veterinary Control and Surveillance of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the import of the controlled goods are available.

Deputy Head

N.A. Vlasov

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To Heads of Territorial Divisions of  
Rosselkhoznadzor

(according to the list)

November 21, 2014 No. FS-AS-7/22903

In response to \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

The Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision informs that movement of plant products from the list, included in the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 778 of August 7, 2014 “On Measures for implementation of the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 560 of August 6, 2014 “About the application of certain special economic measures in order to protect the national security of the Russian Federation” (as amended by Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 830 of August 20, 2014,) to third countries, including to the Republic of Kazakhstan, as of November 24, 2014, should take place exclusively through the checkpoints across the state border of the Russian Federation.

Deputy Head

A.I. Saurin