

**Animal health requirements for meat and viscera derived from cattle and for sausages, ham and bacon made from the said meat and viscera as raw materials, to be exported to Japan from Lithuania**

Animal health requirements for beef etc. to be exported to Japan from Lithuania are as follows.

**(Definitions)**

For the purpose of these animal health requirements:

"beef etc."

part of muscle or organs of any cattle which is skeletal or found in the tongue, diaphragm, heart or which are organs such as liver, kidney and stomach and products made from the said muscle and organs as raw materials such as sausages, ham and bacon etc..

Meat and viscera do not include the head (except the tongue and cheek meat), tonsil, spinal cord, distal ileum (limited to a 2-meter portion from its junction with the cecum) and vertebral column (bone and related components such as dorsal root ganglia) of cattle.

"exported beef etc."

means beef etc. to be exported to Japan from Lithuania

"outbreak"

means an appearance of clinical signs, detection of specific antigens, nucleic acid or antibodies, or identification of the pathogens of the relevant disease

"designated facilities"

means the slaughterhouses, meat processing facilities and storage facilities, etc. which are designated by the animal health authorities of Lithuania (or, in the case of Annex. 1.2.(2), of the countries listed in Annex 2) as facilities which meet the requirements in items from 1 to 4 in Annex 1. for handling exported beef etc.

"third free countries"

means countries or zones approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan for the export of beef etc. to Japan and that are listed in Annex 2

"Japanese animal health authorities"

means the Animal Health Division, Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Japanese Government

"animal health authorities of Lithuania"

means the State Food and Veterinary Service in Lithuania

"OIE"

means the World Organization for Animal Health, formally called the Office International des Epizooties

"Code"

means the Terrestrial Animal Health Code established by the OIE

**(General requirements)**

1. Lithuania must be free from Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), Rinderpest and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).
2. Vaccinations against FMD and Rinderpest as well as importation of cloven-hoofed animals vaccinated against any of these diseases must be completely prohibited by the laws of Lithuania.
3. Exported beef etc. must be slaughtered, produced and stored only in designated facilities.
4. Cattle slaughtered for the production of exported beef etc. must be born and raised only in Lithuania, or must meet all of the requirements in items (1) to (4) in Annex 1.1.
5. Cattle used for the production of exported beef etc. must be handled in a way as to keep it from being contaminated with any causative agents of animal infectious diseases such as being transported by a disinfected vehicle without being mixed with other species until they are slaughtered at the designate facilities.
6. Cattle slaughtered for the production of exported beef etc. must be free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of ante- and post- mortem inspections conducted by government veterinarians or official inspectors of Lithuania (or, in the case of Annex 1.2(2), of the third free country) at the designated facilities.
7. Beef etc. used for the production of exported beef etc. must originate from cattle that were born and raised only in Lithuania or must meet all of the requirements in items (1) to (4) in Annex 1.2.
8. Exported beef etc. must be handled in such a way as to keep it from being contaminated with any causative agents of animal infectious diseases until shipment. Clean and sanitary wrappings and/or containers such as cardboard boxes must be used to pack the exported beef etc.

**(Requirements for Casings)**

9. In case the exported beef etc. include casings, the casings must satisfy all the requirements stipulated in Annex 3.

**(Other)**

10. If any exported beef etc. is transported through third countries, the exported beef etc. must be put in a closed container and the animal health authorities of Lithuania must seal the container with an official seal that can be readily identified. The Japanese animal health authorities must approve the form of the seal in advance. In case the said seal is found to be broken or removed etc. at the time of inspection after arrival in Japan, the exported beef etc. in question may be prohibited from being released into Japan.
11. In case of an outbreak of FMD, Rinderpest or BSE in Lithuania, the animal health authorities of Lithuania must immediately notify the Japanese animal health authorities of the outbreak of the said diseases and suspend the shipment of the exported beef etc. to Japan. Further, the

animal health authorities of Lithuania must provide detailed information of the outbreak and measures taken. The Japanese animal health authorities must immediately suspend the importation of beef etc. from anywhere in Lithuania. Any exported beef etc. which is then en route to Japan must be prohibited from being released into Japan, except for beef etc. which definitely has no epidemiological relation to the outbreak of the said diseases.

12. In case of an outbreak of FMD, Rinderpest or BSE in the third free countries, the animal health authorities of Lithuania must immediately suspend the shipment of exported beef etc. from all designated facilities which handle cattle and beef etc. imported from the said country or zone and inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the shipment suspension. Any beef etc. in the pipeline must be prohibited from entering into Japan, except for beef etc. that definitely has no epidemiological relation to the outbreak of the said diseases.
13. The shipment of exported beef etc. described in item 12 must be resumed either in case the Japanese animal health authorities confirm that the concerned third free country or zone is free from the said diseases or in case the animal health authorities of Lithuania suspend the utilization of cattle and the beef etc. from concerned third free country in the designated facilities and inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the said suspension. (However, this paragraph is not applicable to shipment of beef etc. that is epidemiologically related to the outbreak of the said diseases.)
14. The animal health authorities of Lithuania must keep a record of the name and address of the premises where all cattle slaughtered for the production of the exported beef etc. were born and raised. Such records must be provided on request to the Japanese animal health authorities.

**(Issuance of inspection certificate)**

15. The animal health authorities of Lithuania must be responsible for issuing an inspection certificate for exported beef etc., stating the following items in detail in English:
  - (1) Each requirement of items 1, 2, 4 to 9 (in case the exported beef etc. originates from cattle and/or beef etc. directly imported to Lithuania from the third free countries/zones, the name of the third free countries/zones and the requirements in items 1-(1) to 1-(4) and/or 2-(1) to 2-(4) in Annex1)
  - (2) County and region of origin
  - (3) Name, address and registration number of the designated facilities (in case slaughtering, processing and storing, etc. are not done at the same designated facilities, each of the facilities at which the exported beef etc. are handled must be described on the certificate)
  - (4) Slaughter, cutting and processing date
  - (5) Date, authorities' name and place of issue of the inspection certificate, and name and title of the official who signed the certificate
  - (6) Identification number of the official seal sealing up the container etc. (in case the transporting container etc. is sealed up with a seal according to item 10)

## Annex 1

### Requirements for designated facilities

1. The designated facilities must handle only cattle which were born and raised only in Lithuania or were directly imported to Lithuania from the third free countries and the animals must meet all of the requirements of the following items (1) to (4):
  - (1) The said animals must be born and raised only in the third free countries.
  - (2) The said animals must be free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of export inspection conducted by the animal health authorities of the third free countries.
  - (3) The said animals must be directly destined and imported to Lithuania from the third free countries without transiting through countries other than the said countries, and must be accompanied by inspection certificates issued by the government authorities of the said countries.
  - (4) The said animals must be free from any evidence of animal infectious disease as a result of import inspection conducted by the animal health authorities of Lithuania.
  
2. The designated facilities must handle only beef etc. originates from cattle which were born and raised only in Lithuania and were handled only at the designated facilities in Lithuania; or were directly imported to Lithuania from the third free countries and the beef etc. must meet all of the requirements in the following items (1) to (4):
  - (1) The beef etc. must be derived from cattle that were born and raised only in the third free countries.
  - (2) The beef etc. must be handled only in the designated facilities of the third free countries, and derived from cattle that were free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of ante- and post-mortem inspection conducted by official veterinarians of the third free countries.
  - (3) The beef etc. must be directly imported to Lithuania from the third free countries without transiting through countries other than the said countries, and must be accompanied by inspection certificates issued by the government authorities of the said countries.
  - (4) The beef etc. must be free from any evidence of animal infectious disease as a result of import inspection conducted by the animal health authorities of Lithuania, and must be directly carried into the designated facilities in Lithuania after the said inspection.
  
3. If designated facilities are storage facilities and satisfy the following conditions, they can be designated as storage facilities to handle exported beef etc.. In this case the said storage facilities are used only for the temporary storage of the products ready for export until its shipment:
  - (1) Dedicated area for exported beef etc. in the designated facility ("the storage area") must handle only beef etc. which complies with the article 2 above.
  - (2) The exported beef etc. which are handled in the storage area must be completely wrapped and boxed, and must be completely isolated from any meat etc. other than products which comply with the article 2 above.
  - (3) The exported beef etc. must be handled to prevent cross-contamination with any meat etc. other than products complying with article 2 above.
  
4. The type of products, quantities, production areas and date of handling of the cattle and beef etc. (and, in case of handling of cattle or beef etc. imported from the third free countries, the

name of country/zone of origin and date of import) must be recorded on the original records at the designated facilities. The original records must be kept for at least two years at the designated facilities.

5. The animal health authorities of Lithuania must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name, address, registration number and operation of the designated facilities (slaughter, processing, storage etc.) (and, in case of handling of animals or meat etc. imported from the third free countries, the name of country/zone of origin) in advance of export to Japan.
6. The government veterinarians of Lithuania must confirm that the designated facilities meet the requirements in articles 1 to 4 above by residing at the designated facilities or by periodically visiting the designated facilities. If the designated facilities do not meet the requirements in articles 1 to 4 above, the animal health authorities of Lithuania must immediately revoke the designation of the said facilities, inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name etc. of the said facilities, and suspend the shipment to Japan of the exported beef etc. from the said facilities.

**(On-site inspections conducted by animal quarantine officer of Japan)**

7. Animal quarantine officers of Japan have a right to perform on-site inspections of the designated facilities and to examine the original records. When the officers find any incompliance with this animal health requirements, the importation of the beef etc. from the designated facilities may be suspended.

## **Annex 2**

The third free countries for cattle: Countries or zones approved as free from FMD, Rinderpest and BSE by the Japanese animal health authorities

Please refer to MAFF official website for up-to-date information:

<http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/third-free.html>

## **Annex 3**

### **Additional requirements for casings used for meat etc. exported from Lithuania to Japan**

If natural casings are used for meat products to be exported from Lithuania to Japan, the casings must meet the following requirements.

#### **In case the casings are derived from cattle, sheep and goat:**

- 1 The casings are derived from animals born and raised in the countries other than the countries which are shown on the following URL.

Please refer to MAFF official website for up-to-date information:

<http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/bse.html>

- 2 In case the casing for the production of exported meat products are imported from the third countries, the casing must have been free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the official inspectors of animal health authorities of Lithuania or EU member states or of confirmation of the health certificates issued by the government of the said third countries.
- 3 Casings have been handled only at the facilities approved (hereinafter referred to as "approved casing facilities") by the animal health authorities of Lithuania as the ones which handle only casings prescribed in item 1 and 2. (This provision must apply to the meat processing facilities in the exporting countries.)
- 4 The animal health authorities of the Lithuania must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name, address, registration number of the approved casing facilities in advance.
- 5 The animal health authorities of the Lithuania must issue inspection certificates for the exported meat products using casing to Japan, stating the following items in English:
  - 1) Item 1 and 2
  - 2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin (the name of the country that the animals processed into casings were born and raised in) and animal species of origin
  - 3) Name, address and registration number of approved casing facilities

#### **In case the casings are derived from pigs:**

- 1 Casings derived from pigs which are free from any animal infectious diseases as a result of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by official inspectors of the animal health authorities of Lithuania.

In case the casings for the production of exported meat products are imported from the third countries, the casing must have been free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the official inspectors of competent authorities of Lithuania or EU member states or confirmation of the health certificates issued by the originating government .

- 2 The animal health authorities of Lithuania must issue inspection certificates for the exported meat products using casing to Japan, stating the following items in English:
  - 1) Item 1
  - 2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin (the name of the country where animals from which casings are derived were born and raised in)