

Import Permit Policies



*Guidance for Products Containing Small
Amounts of Meat, Poultry or
Processed Egg Ingredients*

FSIS protects public health:

- Food safety
- Food defense
- Regulation of imported food products





**Food Safety and
Inspection Service**

Legal Authority

FSIS regulates domestic and imported meat, poultry, and processed egg products.



**Federal Meat
Inspection Act**



**Poultry Products
Inspection Act**



**Egg Products
Inspection Act**

- Meat, poultry, or processed egg product ingredient required to originate from an approved source.

- FSIS has supported:
 - ❖ Customs and Border Protection
 - ❖ Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

- Regulates imports under the Animal Health Protection Act
- Ensures that exotic animal and poultry diseases are not introduced into the United States.





Food Safety and
Inspection Service

APHIS Permit

Application for APHIS Import Permit

- Complete and submit the permit application (VS Form 16-3) to APHIS
- Form may be found on APHIS' Web site at www.aphis.usda.gov
 - ❖ Download and fax to (301) 734-8226.
 - ❖ Submitted via ePermits.

Food products that may not pose a threat to animal health and are eligible for VS Form 16-6A may be ineligible for entry into the United States.



Ingredients were not prepared
from an approved source.

APPROVED SOURCE

- Prepared under FSIS inspection in the U.S.,
- From a certified establishment in an equivalent country



Web site:

www.fsis.usda.gov/PDF/Countries_Products_Eligible_for_Export.pdf

New Procedures

FSIS will play a direct role in issuance of APHIS permits:

- Permit application submitted to APHIS will be reviewed by FSIS
- Importer will provide FSIS the necessary supporting documentation
- FSIS will communicate directly with the importer if clarification is needed

New Procedures

- Must provide documented evidence to support the origin of the meat and/or poultry ingredient
- Must be supplied before the APHIS permit is issued



Supporting Documentation

- Bill of lading
- Invoice from the producing establishment
- Statement from government agency from which ingredient or product originated

For products containing processed egg ingredients:

- FSIS will not implement procedures for several months
- Must ascertain whether processed eggs or shell eggs are used in the food products





Next 12-18 Months

- Outreach to importers, trade associations, and other interested parties.
- Evaluate trade impacts
- Rulemaking



Next Steps

**Questions may be directed to FSIS
at permits@fsis.usda.gov or at
(888)-287-7194**

FSIS will continue surveillance of product that has entered the U.S.

- Both products that require APHIS permits and products that do not require an APHIS permit
- Importer will need to provide, upon request, supporting documentation to demonstrate the meat or poultry ingredient came from an approved source

- Importer responsible for obtaining any required authorization from APHIS
- Meat, poultry or egg product ingredients used in FSIS-exempted products must be prepared under FSIS inspection or under an approved foreign inspection system
- Contact permits@fsis.usda.gov; (888) 287-7194.

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