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Kazakhstan



Kazakhstan Veterinary Certificate issue

In November 2010, after a year of negotiations, Kazakhstan and U.S. have agreed on new forms of Veterinary Certificates for export of U.S. meats to Kazakhstan.

On January 11, 2011 the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan has posted new forms of Veterinary Certificates on their official website. However, on the website there was no any information regarding when this new Certificates will come into force.

At the same time, USAPEEC CAEE Consultant has been actively contacted by the trade with a number of questions to clarify regarding these Certificates. USAPEEC has immediately notified USTR, USDA FSIS Washington, FAS Moscow (Russia) and FAS Astana (Kazakhstan) on the issue and based on the questions asked by the trade compiled a list of questions concerning the use of Veterinary Certificates that needs to be clarified.

According to U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), during the negotiations on new forms of Certificates, Kazakhstan had verbally assured USTR that they would continue to accept the old Certificate for 90 days after the signing of the new one. We understand that the 90 days are up on February 21, 2011.

On January 26, 2011 the representatives of U.S. Embassy in Astana, Kazakhstan (officials of FAS USDA) had the meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan and as per USAPEEC's request addressed questions our industry has.

While there is no detailed info on the results of the meeting yet, according to FAS Moscow, Kazakhs said that imports of meats into Kazakhstan under old Veterinary Certificates will not be allowed. They said they will start accepting new forms of Veterinary Certificates.

However, Kazakh officials informed on this verbally, nothing was provided in writing. So now USTR is trying to get these statements in writing so there is no confusion. There will be again some high level meetings (between U.S. Department and Kazakhstan officials) in the near term to get this done.

USAPEEC members who have product destined to Kazakhstan in transit (pending to be shipped/on water/at seaports/stuck at the Customs Union or Kazakh border) are encouraged to send all this info, preferably with a copy of Veterinary Certificates, to USAPEEC CAEE Consultant Bella Ablava ([e-mail: bella_usapeec@yahoo.com](mailto:bella_usapeec@yahoo.com)).

This specific info will be helpful during high level meetings between U.S. Department and Kazakhstan officials.

On January 24, 2011 USAPEEC found out that Kazakhs have deleted the forms of new Veterinary Certificates for export of U.S. meats to Kazakhstan from the official website of the Ministry of Agriculture. This fact caused additional questions which USAPEEC is trying to clarify now.

Additional info:

According to the Unified Veterinary Requirements of Customs Union approved by the Decision No. 317 as of June 18, 2010 (with amendments as of August 17, 2010 and November 18, 2010), “until January 1, 2012 in mutual trade with third countries Customs Union members are allowed to import products under veterinary certificates pre-signed by one of the parties with exporting countries until July 1, 2010. In case of absence of pre-signed veterinary certificates, controlled goods must be accompanied by veterinary certificates which guarantee an implementation of the Unified veterinary-sanitary requirements of the Customs Union.”

Thus, if Kazakhstan finally allows imports of poultry under new Veterinary Certificates they will be valid until January 1, 2012.

Also according to FAS Moscow, Kazakhstan extended its 2010 quota through March 2011. In addition, Kazakhstan will be dropping country-specific allocations when it announces the 2011 quota in March.

We will keep you informed on all further developments.

Sources: The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow (Russia); the Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Embassy in Astana (Kazakhstan), Office of U.S. Trade Representative; the official website of the Customs Union Commission (www.tsouz.ru)

Administrative barriers for meat exporters are removed

According to the press-service of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan, administrative barriers for meat exporters are removed. Customs Union states have approved Uniform requirements for veterinary and sanitary measures in the livestock industry. Starting January 1, 2011 Veterinary permits issued in Kazakhstan have legal force in the territory of Belarus and Russia.

Source: Profinance.kz Information Agency (www.profinance.kz)

Translated by: usapeec.kz

Russia and Kazakhstan can join WTO separately but simultaneously

According to Maxim Medvedkov, the Head of the Russian delegation for the talks on WTO accession, Russia and Kazakhstan can join the World Trade Organization almost simultaneously, because Kazakhstan has already made significant progress in the negotiation process.

M. Medvedkov pointed out that the difference between the times of accession of Russia and Kazakhstan to the organization will be just several months.

According to M. Medvedkov, Russia can complete the technical part of the negotiations in April 2011, which will allow finishing all procedures throughout 2011 and become a full member of WTO starting 2012. Meanwhile, according to the press service of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade Ministry of Kazakhstan, the country has completed bilateral negotiations with the EU and other 24 WTO member-states. The relevant protocols have already been signed by the sides.

As starting January 1, 2010 the practical implementation of the Customs Union has begun, during June 2009 - March 2010 Kazakhstan didn't conduct any negotiation on WTO accession. This fact is associated with the changes in the trade policy of Kazakhstan and other countries of the Customs Union in connection with the beginning of the practical implementation of the Customs Union. Kazakhstan's talks with the U.S and Saudi Arabia on WTO accession are at final stage.

Source: Profinance.kz Information Agency (www.profinance.kz); Translated by: usapeec.kz

Kazakhstan gets serious about reducing its dependence on poultry imports



The Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Karim Masimov has ordered to include the issue of the poultry industry development into the livestock development program in order to reduce country's dependence on poultry imports. The Prime Minister pointed out that the President has allocated the funds to support this industry and Kazakhstan is building a radically new system that will allow a tremendous increase in export capacity and the saturation of the domestic market.

Meanwhile, according to the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan, Akhylybek Kurishbayev, over the past three years the share of imported chicken leg quarters in domestic market has declined from 70 percent to 50 percent. He said that in 2010 production of eggs increased by 13.6 percent and poultry – by 25 percent. Also, Akhylybek Kurishbayev offered to double subsidies for poultry industry this year.

He is confident that this measure will be a good basis for maintaining stability in the livestock industry and, therefore, guarantee complete coverage of the domestic market.

*Sources: Gazeta.kz News Service (www.gazeta.kz); Kazakh-Zerno Information Agency (www.kazakh-zerno.kz); the official website of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan (http://minagri.gov.kz)
Translated by: usapeec.kz*

Number of livestock is decreasing due to high prices for fodder

It became too expensive to raise livestock in Kazakhstan due to a drastic 3-fold increase in fodder prices. High prices strongly affected private households and now farmers are forced to slaughter animals.

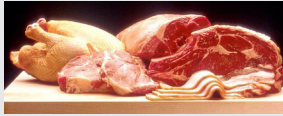
In January 2011 another jump in prices took place. Farmers can not afford to buy fodders in big amounts; even raising birds is now very expensive. Farmers say that due to high prices for fodder the beef will soon become delicacy. Thus, 1 kilogram of beef will cost minimum USD 6.8. Officials associate increase in fodder prices with overall rise in prices for grain that have taken place in 2010.

Deputy Head of the Department of Agriculture of Karaganda region, Abdollah Torebekov said that they are aware of the price situation. "Poultry and pork producing enterprises submitted applications for provision of fodders. Based on this we have appealed to the Ministry of Agriculture with request to establish a stabilization fund for providing these very enterprises with fodder. So now the State Antimonopoly Agency should check fodder producers on price collusion", he said.

According to the press service of the President of Kazakhstan, in 2010 the country produced 1.4 million MT of meat and 3.4 million eggs. The number of all kinds of livestock and poultry in 2010 was as follows: cattle - 6.5 million heads, sheep and goats - 19 million heads, horses - 1.5 million heads, pigs - 1.5 million heads and poultry - 34.8 million heads.

Source: Nomad News Service (http://nomad.su); Translated by: usapeec.kz

Kazakhstan plans to increase exports of meat up to 60,000 MT



According to the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, by the year 2016 Kazakhstan plans to increase the exports of meat up to 60,000 MT per year. According to the Head of the state, Kazakhstan will increase exports of meat up to 180,000 MT in the future. For these purposes the Government will allocate KZT 130 billion credit (USD 885 million). The President said that this will allow to create over 20,000 working places in the villages and will employ over 100,000 of people.

The President also noted that these measures will stimulate the growth of production in such industries as: agricultural machinery, chemical and food industries, forage production.

*Source: The official website of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan (<http://minagri.gov.kz>)
Translated by: usapeec.kz*

Russia is interested in the supplies of meat from Kazakhstan

According to the First Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Umirzak Shukeev Russia is interested in the supplies of meat from its closest neighbors - Kazakhstan and Belarus. Deputy Prime Minister noted that the Russian Ministry of Agriculture has specifically developed a program, so that Kazakhstan could easily import meat into Russia. He pointed out that Russia imports 1.7 million MT of meat annually - mainly from Brazil and South American countries.

Minister of Agriculture Akhylbek Kurishbayev informed that State Veterinary Inspection of Kazakhstan is working to lift existing bans and restrictions on exports of livestock products to Russia. A. Kurishbayev said that today, the following regions of Kazakhstan are allowed to export to Russia: Kostanai, Mangistau, North and West Kazakhstan regions. Aktobe, East Kazakhstan and Pavlodar regions will be allowed to export their products in the near future as well. As for the rest regions, now joint inspections with a view to lift current restrictions are being carried out.

Kazakhstan has developed a program aimed at increasing export potential of the country, mainly to increase beef exports.

Source: Inform.kz Information Agency (<http://inform.kz>); Translated by: usapeec.kz

90 percent of meat processing enterprises of Kazakhstan do not meet international quality standards

The plans of the Government to raise meat production so that to be able to cover internal demand and even start exporting are impossible. According to the official figures, exports of domestic meat compared to the volumes in 90-s have decreased by 400 times.

General Manager of JSC KazAgroMarketing Asel Yerzhanova believes that the exports are affected not only by the low number of livestock, but also by the poor epidemiological situation in Kazakhstan: regular outbreaks of brucellosis, tuberculosis, anthrax, foot-and-mouth disease. She is confident that these factors restrict the access to foreign markets. And non-industrial ways of beef production also does not allow producers to offer large supplies of meats to the markets of Russia, for example. The sharp decline in meat production has led to the fact that Kazakhstan has lost markets. Today, when country is trying to restore its previous positions, Kazakhstan faces difficulties. The main obstacle is inconsistency of the domestic product to the requirements of the importing country. 90 percent of the slaughterhouses and meat processing plants in Kazakhstan do not comply with international quality standards. "If we want to start exports to the EU, then we should note that the main thing they are paying attention on is product safety. Today, we can not give such guarantees to the countries where we export meat. We even can not control all the meat that is produced in our country", she said.

Experts believe that the only way out is to develop industrial production. It is necessary to build cattle reproducing farms, feeding platforms. The expansion of such farms will allow raising the livestock in number and this will help reduce the impact of the current seasonality of meat production.

Source: Thenews.kz News Service (<http://thenews.kz>); Translated by: usapeec.kz

Kazakhstan increased exports to Customs Union countries by 52.4 percent

According to the President of Kazakhstan, during 10 months of 2010, the country has increased exports of its products to Customs Union (CU) countries by 52.4 percent.

He said that this fact proves that Customs Union is a very pragmatic project, which solves the economic problems of CU countries.

The President added that the creation of the Common Economic Space will provide a huge market for Kazakh producers. It is a challenge for Kazakh business to produce competitive goods and services.

He noted that according to the World Bank 2010 report, Kazakhstan became the leader in reforms in the interests of business. In the global ranking of countries with the most favorable business climate, Kazakhstan ranks 59th out of 183 countries.

Source: Profinance.kz Information Agency (www.profinance.kz)

Translated by: usapeec.kz

Kyrgyzstan



Meat market in Kyrgyzstan is a non-transparent and difficult to control

According to the State Agency on Antimonopoly Regulation, meat market in Kyrgyzstan is non-transparent, virtually uncontrolled and not consolidated. The Agency notes that it is impossible to assess the actual volumes of produced and consumed meat.

According to the National Statistical Committee during the first 9 months of 2010 the capacity of the meat market (excluding poultry) amounted to 9,697,700 MT. That is an increase of 49.2 percent compared to the same period of 2009 (6,500,600 MT). The growth took place both due to the increase in domestic production by 14.9 percent (from 3,986,700 MT to 4,579,100 MT) and increase in imports by 2.3 times (from 2,544,600 MT to 5,855,000 MT).

During the first 9 months of 2010, import volumes were far much higher than domestic production volumes. Exports of meat in 2010 grew rapidly. Thus, only during 9 months of 2010 a twentyfold increase in meat exports took place (from 30.7 to 736.4 MT).

The growth of prices was caused mainly due to the rise in prices for fuel and fodder. Reduction of meat supplies in the domestic market and increase of meat exports played its role as well, State Agency on Antimonopoly Regulation reports. Meat market in Kyrgyzstan is formed mainly by the production of private farms due to the lack of organized distribution networks. As a result, the cost of meat increases from USD 0.6 to USD 1.3 from the producer's price. Despite competition in the meat market, meat prices for consumers are increasing due to the presence of speculators in the market, and therefore, prices cease to be affordable to all population groups.

This situation is due to the relatively weak consumer market - sensitive to external factors, and is also worsened by the presence of high risk factors in the form of small-scale agricultural production, State Agency on Antimonopoly Regulation reports.

Despite the fact that today meat market is competitive and the implementation of direct state regulation of market conditions is unreasonable, there is a need for special protective measures such as imposing customs duties or quotas for the export of meat in live weight and chilled fresh meat. These measures are necessary in order to protect domestic market and to ensure affordability of the product to the consumers, Agency reports.

Source: Kazakh-Zerno Information Agency (www.kazakh-zerno.kz)

Translated by: usapeec.kz

Kyrgyzstan will join Customs Union as there are no any other alternatives

According to Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Almazbek Atambaev, Kyrgyzstan will join Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan as there are no any other alternatives.

“We will anyway have to join Customs Union and Common Economic Space. They say that there will be lots of minuses if we join CU, but there will be even more if we do not join it. Kyrgyzstan does not have any other alternatives. And we must first of all work with our neighbors”, A. Atambaev said.

He said that the strategic decision to join the Customs Union has been taken; everything should be done thoughtfully so that not to bring harm to Kyrgyzstan. If Russia and Kazakhstan enter WTO, many questions will be removed, he added.

*Source: Thenews.kz News Service
(<http://thenews.kz>); Translated by: usapeec.kz*

Kyrgyzstan produces 333,000 MT of meat annually



According to the Minister of Agriculture of Kyrgyzstan, Torogul Bekov, Republic produces 333,000 MT of meat annually.

According to him, 63,000 MT of this amount (worth 1 million USD) is exported abroad. At the same time, he noted that Kyrgyzstan imports poultry meat in large amounts from China (worth about 43 million USD).

*Source: 24.kg Information Agency
(www.24.kg); Translated by: usapeec.kz*

In 2010 meat prices in Kyrgyzstan increased by almost 150 percent

According to the press service of the Ministry of Economic Regulation of Kyrgyzstan, meat prices over the 12 months of 2010 rose by USD 1.4-2.1 per kilogram. In the markets of Bishkek, the meat price as of January 1, 2010 was USD 3.7-4 per kilogram, and as of December 28, 2010 it is USD 4.7-5.3.

Ministry of Economic Regulation notes that agricultural products are bought in bulk from Kazakhstan, therefore prices for these products increased for residents of the Kyrgyz Republic.

*Source: Thenews.kz News Service
(<http://thenews.kz>); Translated by: usapeec.kz*

Tajikistan



SUE “Poultry industry of Tajikistan” was recognized the Best Company of 2010

State Unitary Enterprise “Poultry industry of Tajikistan” was recognized the Best Company of 2010 by the Committee of the Assembly of the European business. The Head of this company was recognized the “Manager of the Year”.

SUE “Poultry industry of Tajikistan” includes 26 poultry plants and factories.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture since the beginning of 2010 SUE “Poultry industry of Tajikistan” produced over 110 million eggs.

The restoration of all poultry plants and enterprises all over the country helped to decrease egg imports.

Since the beginning of 2010, the imports of eggs totaled 80 million eggs, which is 13 million units less compared to the same period of 2009.

Due to the State Program of poultry development for the years 2007-2015 the poultry plants and enterprises by the December 2010 had raised 1.17 million heads of poultry. At present in all types of poultry farms of the country the number of poultry stock has reached 4.3 million heads.

*Source: Meatinfo News Service
(<http://meatinfo.ru>)
Translated by: usapeec.kz*

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Uzbekistan



Number of livestock has increased

According to the official statistics, in 2010 production of meat in Uzbekistan has increased by 6.6 percent and reached 1.4 million MT, milk - by 6.5 percent up to 5.7 million MT. According to experts estimates, Uzbekistan meets only 60 percent of domestic demand for meat and 70 percent for milk.

Today there are 104 operating enterprises with a production capacity of 153,100 MT of meat per year in Uzbekistan. More than half of all the facilities are located in the Tashkent region. It is planned to built 50 more meat-processing enterprises (with production capacity of 24,800 MT) in 2011, 73 meat processing plants (with production capacity of 31,000 MT) in the year 2012 and 78 plants (with production capacity of 28,000 MT) in the year 2013.

Source: *Kazakh-Zerno Information Agency (www.kazakh-zerno.kz)*

Translated by: *usapeec.kz*

*Kazakhstan poultry import statistics over January-November 2010**

Partner Country	Value	Quantity
World	102,842.1	114,263.3
United States	76,001.9	96,113.5
Ukraine	21,630.2	13,969.8
Russia	3,194.2	1,742.8
Poland	1,031.7	1,483.5
Brazil	554.6	570.7
Lithuania	185.2	160.0
Other	244.3	223.0

Value Unit: Thousands of USD

Volume Unit: MT

* Source: Customs Control Committee under the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan.

* Share of U.S. in total volume of poultry imports into Kazakhstan during January-November 2010 made up 84 percent.