



United States Department of Agriculture
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1



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The Animal Health Protection Act enacted by the Congress of the United States provides the authority to regulate (restrict or test) any commodity that presents a risk to livestock health.

By definition, livestock includes any farmed animal.

APHIS Veterinary Services develop policy, set import requirements, and negotiate protocols and export health certificates for the import of live animals and animal products exported to the United States, including live swine of all kinds (farmed and feral wild boar, exotic swine/peccary species, zoo animals, breeding animals, animals for slaughter, etc.) and swine products for commercial or personal use including trophies.



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With the exception of regions with specific zoning agreements, the import of live swine, swine germplasm, and fresh (frozen or chilled) pork products from African swine fever (ASF) regions is prohibited.

Movement of live swine and germplasm through ASF regions is also prohibited.

USDA APHIS and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) work in partnership to safeguard U.S. agriculture.

CBP enforces APHIS regulations for imported animal products and by-products at U.S. ports.

Upon arrival at U.S. ports of entry, import permits, export health certificates, and other supporting documentation must be presented to CBP for review.



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

3 3



United States Department of Agriculture



In response to the global spread of ASF, APHIS has increased safeguarding efforts in partnership with CBP by emphasizing the importance of increased vigilance in enforcing restrictions and prohibitions on the import of live swine, swine germplasm, and pork products from affected countries.

CBP agriculture specialists screen all agriculture imports, paying particular attention to arriving cargo from countries with foreign animal diseases.

APHIS and CBP regularly communicate regarding pending policy issues, regulatory changes, and other safeguarding initiatives, such as identifying fraudulent health certificates.

APHIS sends alerts and updates to CBP regarding foreign animal disease outbreaks. CBP then shares that information with ports of entry in the form of memorandums and daily musters to focus inspections and targeting of passengers and cargo.

APHIS also actively works with CBP on obtaining data on animal product imports collected via a technology system in which hard-copy trade information is translated for electronic submission. This streamlines information submission and review. Participation is mandated by the SAFE Port Act and is supported by the APHIS Administrator. The result is effective data-driven policy and operations.

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CBP refers all shipments of live swine and swine germplasm to APHIS for physical inspection.

CBP also ensures the broker/importer maintains the animals in the original shipping containers or on the conveyance until transferred to VS.

Additional safeguarding measures for live animals include notification of APHIS by CBP:

- If there are any compromised or dead animals in the shipment, OR
- If the importer/broker needs to provide water or take other steps to ensure the health and safety of live animals prior to inspection by APHIS, OR
- If foreign government seals placed on the shipment or conveyance are not the same as that listed on the export health certificate (if government seal is required), OR
- If the foreign government seals placed on the shipment or conveyance is broken.

APHIS requires stores, meals, and other food and waste, when removed from aircraft or ships arriving from non-Canadian foreign ports, to be handled as “regulated garbage”. APHIS is currently reviewing regulated garbage requirements to ensure the safeguarding loop is closed, preventing the introduction and dissemination of plant pests and animal diseases.

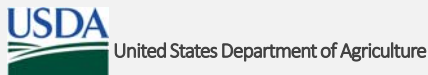


APHIS employs Agriculture Quarantine Inspection Veterinary Medical Officers (AQI VMO) strategically assigned to ports throughout the U.S. and its territories.

AQI VMOs interact with CBP on a daily basis and provide regional support to ensure appropriate and consistent handling of imported animal materials.

They also provide CBP with technical assistance to regulate shipments as well as outreach on new or changing requirements.

For example, since August 2018, the AQI VMOs have conducted over 40 presentations at local and regional port meetings. Additionally, the AQI VMOs discuss ASF risk with CBP Agriculture Specialists and Officers face-to-face during every port visit and during regular phone and email communication.



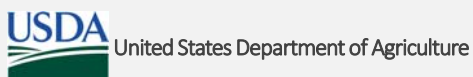
APHIS's Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance (SITC) staff provides an additional layer of safeguarding by detecting and preventing the unlawful entry of prohibited and/or non-compliant products from entering U.S. commerce.

By coordinating with CBP and using market inspection surveys, data and trend analysis, and various intelligence tools SITC plays a major role in interdicting smuggled agricultural products before and after they reach U.S. markets.

Finally, APHIS' Investigative and Enforcement Services investigate all potential cases of illegal importation of livestock and other commodities, which may result in civil and/or criminal penalties.



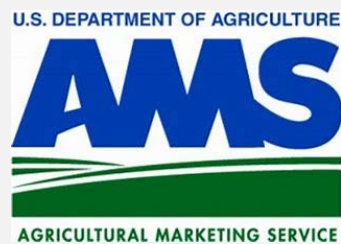
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APHIS also works with other agencies, notifying them if an update is made to the list of ASF affected regions.

These agencies can then update their own import restrictions or remove approvals for facilities located in affected ASF zones or regions to export fresh/unmitigated pork/pork products to the United States.

These agencies also work with CBP to ensure enforcement of restrictions or prohibitions on all affected commodities.



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