



USDA EXPORT VERIFICATION (EV) PROGRAM: SPECIFIED PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS FOR BOVINE – PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

1 Purpose

This document provides the specified product requirements for marketing U.S. bovine meat (beef and veal) to People’s Republic of China (China) under the USDA Export Verification (EV) Program. It also provides the additional requirements for the USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) for marketing bovine meat to China.

2 Scope

These requirements apply to U.S. companies (harvesters, fabricators, and/or processors) that supply beef and beef products for export as listed on the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Export Library Web site. Companies must meet the specified product requirements through an approved USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program. The requirements for the USDA QSA Program are defined in QAD 1002 Procedure: *USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*. The QSA Program ensures that the specified product requirements are supported by a documented quality management system; and that product is identified and traceable through the system.

Only companies with an approved USDA QSA Program for the EV Program may label and sell product as meeting the specified product requirements for export. As an alternative to the USDA QSA Program, companies may apply the requirements of the USDA Process Verified Program (PVP) to meet the specified product requirements. The requirements of the USDA PVP are defined in QAD 1001 Procedure: *USDA Process Verified Program*.

3 Reference Documents

QAD 1000 Procedure: *Quality Systems Verification Programs, General Policies and Procedures*

QAD 1001 Procedure: *USDA Process Verified Program*

QAD 1002 Procedure: *USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*

QAD 1030: *EV Programs Additional Requirements*

[USDA FSIS: Export Library – Requirements by Country website](#)

[Official Listing of Eligible Suppliers to the USDA Bovine EV Programs: China](#)

4 Specified Product Requirements

- 4.1** Bovine meat and meat products must be derived from cattle that were born, raised, and harvested in the U.S., cattle that were imported from Canada or Mexico and subsequently raised and harvested in the U.S., or cattle that were imported from Canada or Mexico for direct harvest in the U.S.



- 4.2 For cattle born, raised and harvested in the U.S., they must be traceable to the birth farm using a unique identifier as outlined below.
 - 4.2.1 Animals must be identified prior to leaving the place of birth with a program compliant ear tag. A program compliant ear tag (PCT) is a 1-time use, tamper-evident tag, which contains a non-repeatable, unique number. It may be an EID, RFID, or a visual tag. The company must provide evidence that the tag meets these requirements.
 - 4.2.2 PCT numbers must be accessible by the USDA in order to determine compliance of source verification/origin status.
 - 4.2.3 All animals must be individually identified.
- 4.3 Animals imported into the U.S. (not for direct harvest) must be traceable to the first place of residence in the U.S. with the PCT outlined above.
- 4.4 Animals imported for direct harvest must be traceable to the port of entry into the U.S.
- 4.5 Beef and beef products were derived from cattle less than 30 months of age.
- 4.6 For a listing of eligible products, refer to the [USDA FSIS: Export Library – Requirements by Country website](#).
- 4.7 Carcasses, bovine meat, and meat products must be uniquely identified and controlled up until the time of shipment.

5 Shipping Documentation

5.1 For Cattle:

- 5.1.1 Shipping documentation (bills of lading, shipping manifests, letters of guarantee, or electronic transmissions) must accompany each shipment of animals that occurs due to sale or transfer of custody.
- 5.1.2 Shipping documentation must include a statement identifying the animals and/or product as meeting the requirements of the EV Program requirements for China. In addition, it must clearly identify the animals and the quantity.

5.2 For Beef and Beef Products

- 5.2.1 Identification of conforming product during shipment and delivery must be documented on the shipping documentation (bills of lading, shipping manifests, or letters of guarantee). The shipping documentation must:
- 5.2.2 Clearly identify the product and product quantity; and



5.2.3 Contain the statement:

5.2.3.1 “Product Meets EV Program Requirements for China” – This statement is used for finished items that are eligible for export; or

5.2.3.2 “Product meets EV Program Requirements for China excluding final fabrication requirements” – This statement is used for items that must be further fabricated to meet all requirements prior to being eligible for export.

6 Listing of Approved Programs

6.1 Only U.S. companies that have an approved USDA QSA Program (or USDA PVP) which meet the specified product requirements for China will be listed on the [Official Listing of Eligible Suppliers to the USDA Bovine EV Programs: China](#).

7 Responsibilities

7.1 U.S. companies must meet all policies and procedures outlined in this Procedure (QAD 1030AA), QAD 1000 Procedure, and either the QAD 1002 Procedure or the QAD 1001 Procedure.

Jeff Waite, Branch Chief
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