

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Veterinary Services and Animal Health, Beit Dagan

September 18th 2011

To the Applicant's Attention-The Clearance of Meat or Entrails from Import

- A. The clearance of imported meat or entrails into the State of Israel is conditioned upon receiving a written permit from the Director of the Veterinary Services at the Ministry of Agriculture (henceforth – the director) in accordance with the Animal Disease Regulations (Meat Importation) 1974 (henceforth – the regulations).
- B. The clearance of meat or entrails for marketing consists of three stages:
- i. **Transferring the meat or entrails to a certified meat cooling facility**
1. The person requesting to transfer the meat or entrails from import to a meat cooling facility shall submit a request to the government veterinary doctor at the port of import. This request shall include: an import permit, an original health certificate accompanying the meat/entrails, at least in the English language, signed and approved by a government veterinary doctor from the country of origin, that was issued prior to the time of importation, and was prepared only according to the example enclosed to the import permit which is an integral part of the permit. A request which shall not include all the required documents shall not be processed.
 2. If the meat and entrails have been imported according to the permit and following its provisions, the veterinary doctor shall order their removal from the transport vehicle and their shipment to the meat cooling facility for further inspection as he sees fit.
 3. Despite the information in the previous article, if the meat and entrails have not been imported according to the permit and following its provisions, or in case the demands of the veterinary services have not been met to their fullest, the meat shall be sent back to the country of origin, destroyed, or handled according to the decision of the director and subject to his provisions.
 4. The director may order that the meat and entrails be unloaded and transferred to the meat cooling facility, as is mentioned in regulation four, even if the provisions of the permit haven't been met to their fullest. This order must not be interpreted as meaning that the meat or entrails have been imported in accordance with those provisions.
- ii. **The inspection of the meat or entrails**
1. The person requesting the clearance of the meat or entrails that have been transferred to a meat cooling facility for inspection, and have complied

with the required provisions, shall submit a request for a pre-clearance inspection to the government veterinary doctor at the port of import. The government veterinary doctor shall instruct the importer or his representative regarding the inspection that needs to be done.

2. Meat and entrails that have been imported shall be inspected by a government veterinary doctor and shall not be marketed until he has issued a clearance certificate, which shall be issued after the meat or entrails have passed an organoleptic test and any other test he sees fit, including: a microbiologic test, a residue test and any other test required.

iii. The decision regarding the clearance/non-clearance of meat or entrails

1. If the government veterinary doctor finds that the meat/entrails have complied with all the import provisions, including the results of the tests, he shall issue a marketing certification in writing, after receiving a copy of the receipt proving that the fee specified in the regulations has been paid.
 2. Meat and entrails that have not been imported according the permit and following its provisions, or have not met the requirements of the Veterinary Services to their fullest, or have failed a test, shall be sent back to the country of origin, destroyed, or handled according to the decision of the director and subject to his provisions.
- C. The importer/owner of the meat/entrails shall bear any cost incurred by the need to send the meat back to the country of origin, to destroy it, to treat it or test it, if that was the instruction given by the government veterinary doctor.
- D. The obligating information is that which is published in the Hebrew language on the Veterinary Services' web site - <http://www.vetserv.moag.gov.il/vet>.

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Chief Veterinary Doctor for Import and Export