Canada - Certification Requirements

Acts and Regulations

"The requirements for imports of aquatic animals (finfish, molluscs, and crustaceans) into Canada are changing. Beginning December 10, 2012, aquatic animals listed on Schedule III of the Health of Animals Regulations will require an import permit to enter the country. This measure is aimed at protecting Canada's aquatic animal resources. The enforcement of these new requirements will be phased in and will come into effect either on December 10, 2012, February 4, 2013 or April 8, 2013 depending on the specific end uses and the applicable HS codes."

All US exporters should be aware that the products they handle may be affected by the implementation of these new regulations. The three U.S. federal agencies that function as Competent Authorities for exported aquatic animals (the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [USDA-APHIS]; the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service [NOAA Fisheries]; and the U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Services [FWS]) have worked with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on specific export requirements that will facilitate continued US trade in aquatic animals and products with Canada. As of December 10, 2012, each shipment must be accompanied by an import permit issued from CFIA and possibly a health certificate from NOAA-SIP / APHIS / FWS.

The regulated species and the diseases of concern are at the link below: [http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/diseases/susceptible-species/eng/1327162574928/1327162766981](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/diseases/susceptible-species/eng/1327162574928/1327162766981)
Certification Requirements

NOAA-SIP will be issuing certification for these exports:

- LIVE AND DEAD WILD-HARVESTED MARINE FINFISH AND THEIR GERMPLASM FOR BAIT AND FEEDING TO AQUATIC ANIMALS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO CANADA

- LIVE OR CARCASS WILD-HARVESTED MARINE FINFISH, CRUSTACEANS FOR FOOD SERVICE AND RETAIL USE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO CANADA

- LIVE OR CARCASS WILD-HARVESTED MARINE FINFISH AND CRUSTACEANS FOR FURTHER PROCESSING FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO CANADA

- LIVE MOLLUSCS FOR FOOD SERVICE, RETAIL USE AND FURTHER PROCESSING FROM THE UNITED STATES TO CANADA

April 8, 2013, marked the enforcement of the third and final phase of Canada's aquatic animal import requirements, which applies to animals intended for Food Service, Retail Use and Further Processing (ie. human consumption). The U.S. Department of Commerce (US DC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Seafood Inspection Program (NOAA - SIP) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Veterinary Services (APHIS- VS) have recently negotiated with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the health certificate for live molluscs intended for Food Service, Retail Use and Further Processing. As a result of this negotiation, beginning April 11, 2013 NOAA-SIP will endorse all live marine molluscan shellfish certificates destined for Canada for the end uses of Food Service, Retail Use and Further Processing. This is an interim measure which will be evaluated over the coming year.
In many cases, regionalization has been established and animals can move without a health/zoosanitary certificate from the origin. To determine if this is possible please utilize Canada's Automotive Information Reference System (AIRS).

http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/aquatic-animals/imports/airs/eng/1300127512994/1326599589537#

Contacts for CFIA Area Offices can be found at:
http://www.inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/offices/eng/1313255382836/1313256130232

Website for USDA APHIS / Canada

Exports:

Website for OIE: http://www.oie.int/en/