

Additional animal health requirements for natural casings used for the meat products to be exported to Japan from the exporting country

In case the meat products to be exported to Japan use natural casings, the casings must satisfy the following requirements.

In case the natural casings are derived from cattle, sheep and goat;

1. The casings are derived from an animal which was born and raised in the countries other than the countries listed in the website below.
<http://www.aff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/bse.html>
2. It has to be confirmed that the casings are free from any animal infectious diseases as a consequence of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by official inspectors of competent authorities of the exporting country. In case the casings for the production of exported meat products are imported from the third countries, the casings need to have been recognized as free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the exporting country.
3. Casings have been handled only at the facilities approved (hereinafter referred to as “approved casing facilities”) by the competent authorities of exporting countries as the ones which handle only casings described in item 1 and 2.(In case the casings are imported from the third countries, this provision must apply to the meat processing facilities in the exporting countries.)
4. The competent authorities of the exporting country must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name, address, registration number of the approved casing facilities in advance.
5. The competent authorities of the exporting country must issue inspection certificates for the exported meat products using casings to Japan, stating the following items in English:
 - (1) Item 1 and 2
 - (2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin and animal species of origin
 - (3) Name, address and registration number of approved casing facilities

In case the natural casings derived from pigs;

1. It has to be confirmed that the casings are free from any animal infectious diseases as a consequence of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by official inspectors of competent authorities of the exporting country. In case the casings for the production of exported meat products are imported from the third countries, the casing need to have been recognized as free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the exporting country.
2. The competent authorities of the exporting country must issue inspection certificates for the exported meat products using casings to Japan, stating the following items in English:
 - (1) Item 1
 - (2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin.