

Regulations and requirements on food safety of animal and fishery products imported to Taiwan

2021.10

Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare

1. Food products that seek importation to Taiwan, and any food businesses importing, exporting, manufacturing, processing, and transportation, storage and sale of food products shall comply with “Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation” (abbreviated as the Act) and its related regulations. There are key points provided as below; however, for comprehensive legislative requirements, please refer to full content of the Act and relevant resources on the website of Taiwan Food and Drug Administration (FDA): <http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG> (> Food > Law & Regulations).
2. Food safety and sanitation standards
 - (1) According to Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Act, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has prescribed “Standards for Veterinary Drug Residue Limits in Foods” and “Standards for Pesticide Residue Limits in Animal Products”. The veterinary drug and pesticide residue limits in foods shall meet the provisions within.
 - (2) According to Article 17 of the Act, the foods being sold

shall conform to sanitation, safety and quality standards prescribed by the central competent authority through consultation with the relevant authorities.

- (3) The contaminants not intentionally added to food, which present in food as a result of production or pollution during the manufacturing, processing, preparing, packaging, transportation, storage, or selling, or as a result of environmental contamination shall comply with the “Sanitation Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food”.
- (4) The limits for microorganisms in import foods shall comply with the “Sanitation Standard for Microorganisms in Foods”.
- (5) The laws or regulations regarding to food sanitation and sanitation were announced on TFDA’s official website <http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/index.aspx> > Guidance, Law & Regulations > Food > regional search:
 - A. Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation(date 2019/6/12) :
<http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/lawContent.aspx?cid=16&id=1361>
 - B. Standards for Veterinary Drug Residue Limits in

Foods(date 2021/6/24) :

<http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/lawContent.aspx?cid=16&id=306>

C. Standards for Pesticide Residue Limits in Animal Products(date 2021/1/27) :

<http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/lawContent.aspx?cid=16&id=497>

D. Sanitation Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food(date 2021/2/4) :

<http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/law.aspx?cid=16&cr=287705651&k=Sanitation+Standard+for+Contaminants+and+Toxins+in+Food>

E. Sanitation Standard for Microorganisms in Foods(date 2020/10/6) :

<http://www.fda.gov.tw/ENG/law.aspx?cid=16&cr=394199113&k=Sanitation+Standard+for+Microorganisms+in+Foods>

3. Systematic inspection

- (1) Products that are subjected to the scope of “Regulations for Systematic Inspection of Imported Food” shall apply for import inspection at border only after the systematic inspection being approved by inspection authority

(Taiwan FDA) according to paragraph 2, Article 4 of the Regulations.

- (2) According to Article 7 of “Regulations for Systematic Inspection of Imported Food”, products, subjected to the scope of this regulation, had existed import records before promulgation of these Regulation might be exempted from the systematic inspection. For fishery products that are subjected to systematic inspection, existed import records are listed in page 36-37 of attached file “Fishery products that are subjected to systematic inspection and with existed import records” (date 2020/08/01).

- (3) Files for reference:

A. Regulations for Systematic Inspection of Imported Food

B. The Systematic Inspection Procedures of Market Access Review

C. Fishery products that are subjected to systematic inspection and with existed import records

- (4) Link for reference:

<https://law.moj.gov.tw/ENG/LawClass/LawAll.aspx?pcode=L0040114>

4. Health certificate of shellfish

- (1) Shellfish listed in 0307 of the Harmonised System Codes (HS Code) imported for human consumption shall be accompanied with a health certificate that includes the information of the catching or harvest area and issued by the official competent authority of the exporting country, effective from January 1, 2018.
- (2) File for reference: “Shellfish should be accompanied with a health certificate which imported for human consumption”

5. Import permit

- (1) Importers should follow the” Regulations of Inspection of Imported Foods and Related Products” to applicate imported permit.
- (2) Files for reference:
 - A. Regulations of Inspection of Imported Foods and Related Products
 - B. Application Form for Foods and Related Products
 - C. Information Form for Foods and Related Products
- (3) Link for reference:
<https://law.moj.gov.tw/ENG/LawClass/LawAll.aspx?pcode=L0040017>