

FSIS Sharing Revised FSIS Form 9060-5 Series for Member States' Awareness

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is making limited revisions to the FSIS Form 9060-5 export certificate series to better align with commonly accepted international guidance, and ensure importing countries' requirements are met. FSIS is revising this certificate series (Meat and Poultry Export Certificate of Wholesomeness, 9060-5; Fish and Fish Products Export Certificate of Wholesomeness, 9060-5S; Product continuation sheet, 9060-5A; and Remarks continuation sheet, 9060-5B) as part of our implementation of the Public Health Information System (PHIS) export component, an electronic application and certification system. On June 29, 2018, FSIS will implement the revised certificate series for both those countries included in the PHIS export component (see FSIS' PHIS export component web page at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products/phs-export-component>) and those that are not yet included in the PHIS export component. Sample certificates are attached for your reference.

On September 6, 2017, FSIS announced and requested comment on our plan to implement the PHIS export component, including limited certificate revisions, on June 29, 2018 (82 FR 42056; World Trade Organization (WTO) notification, USA/SPS/2954). This date is a one-year extension of the implementation date originally published in FSIS' final export rule (81 FR 42225; WTO notification, G/TBT/N/USA/678/Add.1). FSIS intends to implement the PHIS export component with a limited number of countries, and will incrementally expand the number of countries that receive export certificates generated by the PHIS export component. More information about the PHIS export component, including letters to foreign governments, can be found on FSIS' web page at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products/phs-export-component>.

9060-5 Certificate Revisions: The limited 9060-5 series revisions include reformatting and renaming data elements to better reflect international guidance, meet importing countries' requirements, and position FSIS to implement government-to-government electronic export certification data transfer (eCert) in the future. FSIS compared the current 9060-5 series with international guidance, and made the revised 9060-5 series more consistent, wherever possible, with that guidance. For example, the previous certificate's "Product as Labeled," will become "Description of Product;" "Marked Weight of Lot" will become "Net Weight of Lot;" and "Type of Packages" will be an added data element. The new certificates will also carry the official USDA seal.

Product and Remarks Continuation Sheets: When additional space for products or statements is necessary with a 9060-5 or 9060-5S, PHIS will also generate FSIS Form 9060-5A (product continuation sheet), which is an existing addendum that FSIS has aligned with the revised 9060-5; and FSIS Form 9060-5B (remarks continuation sheet), a new addendum to provide more space for additional attestations, when required by the importing country.

Digital Signature: On June 29, 2018, the PHIS export component will produce 9060-5 export certificates – as printed original certificates, and digital (PDF) copies captured in PHIS. FSIS certifying officials will use secure, US government-issued individual ID cards (credentials) to digitally sign the export certificates for countries in PHIS. PHIS will print the digitally signed certificates on 8 1/2" × 11" security paper. The digital signature will include the printed name of the FSIS certifying official, and a unique identification code based on the certifying official's credentials. These features will provide an additional layer of security for the exporter and the importing country's government. At the time the digital signature is applied, USDA's eAuthentication personnel security system will validate through a security process that the digital signature is that of the FSIS certifying official. This feature, along with other security features of the PHIS export component, will provide maximum assurance that export certificates are authentic. A sample printed digital signature is applied to the attached certificate examples. For countries not yet included in the PHIS export component, FSIS will continue to sign 9060-5 series export certificates using ink, on standard paper.