

Import Alert: Foot-and-Mouth Disease Restrictions for Animal Commodities Originating from or Transiting Cyprus

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Effective January 23, 2026, and until further notice, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) is restricting the importation of certain animal commodities originating from or transiting the region of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus exercises effective control (hereafter referred to as "Cyprus") based on the confirmation of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in domestic cattle and sheep.

The regions on the island of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control are not recognized by APHIS as free from FMD. With this import alert, APHIS is now restricting imports from all parts of the island of Cyprus due to FMD.

Restrictions

Live ruminants, camelids, swine, hedgehogs, tenrecs, dogs, horses:

APHIS prohibits the importation of live ruminants, camelids, swine, hedgehogs, tenrecs, and their germplasm originating from or transiting through Cyprus.

APHIS will permit the importation of dogs from Cyprus if their fur and bedding is free of excessive dirt, hay, or straw. The dog should be bathed as soon as it reaches its destination and kept separate from all livestock for five days after entering the United States.

Horses from Cyprus, including horses that have contact with horses from Cyprus at any time within the five days immediately prior to export (including transport and in holding facilities), must complete the established FMD protocol. This includes no direct or indirect contact with domestic or wild ruminants or swine for at least five (5) days before entering the USDA quarantine facility; pre-export decontamination of horses, their hooves, and accompanying equipment; and additional decontamination in an APHIS-approved import quarantine facility upon arrival. Horses transiting Cyprus must complete the FMD protocol upon arrival. Please note that horses that have resided in an FMD-free country for a minimum of five (5) days after residing in Cyprus do not need to complete the FMD protocol.

Processed porcine, ruminant, camelid, hedgehog, and tenrec products and by-products (including milk):

- **If arriving as cargo**, must be accompanied by VS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products or by-products were treated in accordance with APHIS requirements.
- **If arriving in passenger baggage**,

- must be shelf stable as a result of APHIS-approved packaging and cooking (for example, packed in hermetically sealed containers and fully cooked by a commercial method after such packing to produce articles that are shelf stable without refrigeration), **OR**
- must be accompanied by a VS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products or by-products were treated in accordance with APHIS requirements.

Unprocessed porcine, ruminant, camelid, hedgehog, and tenrec products and by-products (including milk):

- **If arriving as cargo**, importation is prohibited with limited exceptions. In some cases, eligible unprocessed porcine, ruminant, and camelid products and by-products can be imported if consigned directly from the port of arrival to an eligible USDA-approved establishment. There are no USDA-approved establishments for milk/milk products.
- **If arriving in passenger baggage**, importation is prohibited, except for trophies that are fully taxidermy finished or consigned directly to an eligible USDA-approved establishment.

More information

More information is available on the APHIS website:

- Specific information about live animal import requirements for all species regulated by APHIS VS can be found on the [Bringing Live Animals and Germplasm into the United States From Another Country \(Import\)](#) website.
- Specific information about animal product import requirements for commodities regulated by APHIS VS can be found on the [Animal Product Imports](#) website.
- A list of regions APHIS recognizes as affected by foot-and-mouth disease can be found on the [USDA APHIS Animal Health Status of Regions](#) website.
- For additional information about live animal imports regulated by other Agencies, please check with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, and/or USDA APHIS Animal Care to ensure import requirements of those agencies are met, when applicable.