

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Update to Imported Dairy Product Inspection and Quarantine Requirements

Country: China - People's Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: MISC-Commodity, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Dairy and Products, FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On December 23, 2021, the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) published a notice that the inspection and quarantine requirements for imported dairy products, which include health certificates, import quarantine permits, and testing reports will now be subject to the details specified in GACC Announcement No. 114. Additional information for U.S. firms exporting dairy and infant formula products may be found within the executive summary. This report contains analysis and an unofficial translation of the GACC notification.

Executive Summary

On January 1, 2022 the Regulations on the Registration and Administration of Overseas Producers of Imported Food (GACC Decree No. 248, GAIN report [CH2021-0045](#)) came into force. Following the implementation of GACC Decree No. 248 (see most recent FAS GAIN report on Decree 248 [CH2021-0184](#)) the inspection and quarantine requirements for imported dairy products will be subject to the requirements specified in GACC Announcement No. 114. As of January 1, 2022, Announcement No. 114 replaces the Administrative Measures for the Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine of Import and Export Dairy Products (see [GAIN report Regulation on Inspection and Quarantine of Imp and Exp Dairy Product](#) dated 2013).

Please find below a summary and unofficial translation of GACC Announcement No. 114. GACC's Announcement No. 114 and GACC's subsequent policy interpretation provide for the following:

Firstly, a health certificate issued by the exporting country (region) should be attached to the imported dairy product. The health certificate should be stamped and signed and indicate the destination as China.

Secondly, testing reports (or their copies) on items required by China's national food safety standards should be provided when clearing customs for the first and subsequent dairy imports. However, GACC also introduced a notification and commitment mechanism where importers can choose to provide an attestation instead of the testing reports (see GAIN report [CH2021-0090](#) for details).

Thirdly, GACC has consolidated the list of dairy products subject to a quarantine import permit (QIP), which includes raw milk, raw milk products, pasteurized milk, and modified milk processed through pasteurization techniques. Importers are required to obtain a QIP before signing a contract.

Fourthly, GACC has added casein, dairy (milk) minerals, and milk protein concentrate (a kind of dairy protein) to the list of dairy products that are subject to inspection and quarantine requirements.

Finally, the unofficial translation also encourages dairy product exporters to register with GACC as specified in Decree 248.

NOTE: Before U.S. firms attempt to register with GACC, the companies should consult with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration by email to: CFSANExportCertification@fda.hhs.gov to ascertain the latest guidance and information related to U.S. dairy trade with China and any process for registration. Information on U.S. dairy firms already registered with GACC is available at the following websites (<https://ciferquery.singlewindow.cn/> and [List of U.S. dairy facilities registered in China](#)).

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Announcement of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China
No. 114 (2021)

December 23, 2021

The Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the Registration and Administration of Overseas Producers of Imported Food (GACC Decree No. 248) and the "Administrative Measures of the People's Republic of China on Import and Export Food Safety" (GACC Decree No. 249, see GAIN report [CH2021-0051](#)) will officially come into force on January 1, 2022. Meanwhile, the Administrative Measures for the Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine of Import and Export Dairy Products will be abolished. The following requirements related to the inspection and quarantine of imported dairy products will continue to be effective. The announcement goes as follows:

1. Imported dairy products must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by the competent authority of the exporting country (region). The certificate shall have the stamp of the competent authority of the exporting country (region) and the signature of its authorized person, and the destination shall be indicated as the People's Republic of China. The sample of the health certificate shall be confirmed by the General Administration of Customs (GACC).
2. Imported raw milk, raw milk products, pasteurized milk, and modified milk processed through a pasteurization process need to get an entry quarantine approval.
3. Overseas manufacturing enterprises shall be familiar with and ensure that the dairy products they export to China comply with China's national food safety standards and relevant requirements.
 - (1) For dairy products imported for the first time, the testing reports for items listed in the corresponding national food safety standards shall be provided. The first import refers to the first import of dairy products entering the same port with completely identical information such as overseas manufacturers, product names, formulas, overseas exporters, and domestic importers.
 - (2) For dairy products that are not imported for the first time, a copy of the testing reports for the first import as well as the testing reports for items required by GACC shall be provided. The testing items for not-for-first-time-import shall be determined by GACC in accordance with relevant conditions such as dairy risk monitoring and shall be published on the GACC Import and Export Food Safety Bureau website at <http://jckspj.customs.gov.cn> (under "Information Service" - query in the "Inspection and Quarantine Requirements" column).
 - (3) The testing reports shall correspond to the production date or production batch number of the imported dairy products.

(4) (GACC) implements a notification and commitment mechanism on testing reports for imported dairy products.

4. The testing agency that issues testing reports for imported dairy products can be an overseas official laboratory, a third-party testing agency, or a corporate laboratory. It can also be a domestic testing agency that has been accredited with food inspection qualifications.
5. Dairy products mentioned in this announcement include colostrum, raw milk, and dairy products. Colostrum refers to milk within 7 days after calving of dairy animals. Raw milk refers to regular milk without any change in composition that is squeezed from the udders of healthy dairy animals that meet the relevant requirements of China. Colostrum of dairy animals, milk during antibiotic application and drug withdrawal period, and spoiled milk shall not be used as raw milk. Raw milk products refer to products that are processed from raw milk without heat treatment and pasteurization in the course of processing. Dairy products refer to foods processed from milk as the main raw material, such as pasteurized milk, sterilized milk, modified milk, fermented milk, cheese and processed cheese, cream, butter, anhydrous butter, condensed milk, milk powder, whey powder and whey protein powder, milk-based infant formula food and its production raw material-based powder, casein, and other milk and dairy products (dairy (milk) minerals and milk protein concentrate, etc.).

This announcement will be implemented as of January 1, 2022. The Announcement on Implementation of Relevant Requirements for the "Administrative Measures for the Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine of Import and Export Dairy Products" on April 15, 2013 (formerly AQSIQ Announcement No. 53, 2013) and the Announcement on Adjustments to the Implementation Requirements for "Administrative Measures for the Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine of Import and Export Dairy Products" on January 8, 2015 (formerly AQSIQ Announcement No. 3, 2015) shall be abolished at the same time.

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Attachments:

No Attachments.