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POLICY

Voluntary - Public

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Morocco

Post: Rabat

BSE Import Prohibitions

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

FAIRS Subject Report

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

WTO Notifications

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Report Highlights:

This report is the unofficial translation of Order 2543-09 on BSE-related import prohibitions. Total cattle imports are valued at \$40 million. The U.S. beef quota is valued at \$80 million (6,404 MT of high quality beef and 2,343 MT of other beef). However, the U.S. has not been able to negotiate a health certificate for live cattle or beef. The draft Order was notified to the WTO, [G/SPS/N/MAR/29](#).

Order of the Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries
No. 2543-09 of kaada 10, 1430 (October 29, 2009) prohibiting entry into the national territory of live animals, bovine species, animal products, products of animal origin and animal propagation products, derived bovine animals originating in or coming from certain countries

(BO No. 5788 of November 19, 2009, page 1535)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARITIME FISHERIES;

Having regard to [Dahir n ° 1-89-230 of Rebia I 22, 1414 \(September 10 1993\)](#) declaring [Law No 24-89](#) stating animal health measures for the importation of animals, animal products, products of animal origin, animal propagation product, seafood and fresh water products;

Having regard to [Decree no. 2-89-597 of Rebia II 25, 1414 \(October 12, 1993\)](#), adopted for the application of [Law No 24-89](#) on animal health measures for the importation of animals, animal products, products of animal origin, animal propagation product, seafood and fresh water products, in particular article 1 thereof,

ORDER:

FIRST ARTICLE. - All bovine animals and products of bovine origin or products containing bovine animals, whatever their proportion and destinations, shall be prohibited from entering the national territory from a country in which one or more cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) have been officially notified to the World Organization on Animal Health (OIE) or a country at risk of bovine spongiform encephalopathy unspecified within the meaning of the OIE.

ART. 2. Are not subject to the prohibition laid down in Article 1 of this order the products for which the OIE recommends to the veterinary authorities not to impose any BSE-related conditions and whose list is established by The Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority.

In addition, the prohibition provided for in Article 1 does not apply to food intended for carnivorous domestic animals which derives from bovine animals authorized for human consumption. These foods must have been manufactured in establishments under the control of the competent health authority of the country of origin and must not have been prepared from specified risk material. The raw materials derived from ruminants incorporated therein must have been subjected to a treatment allowing prion inactivation.

The list of specified risk material shall be adopted by the Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority.

ART. 3. The prohibition of entry into the national territory of bovine animals and products of bovine origin may be lifted at the proposal of the Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority on the basis of an assessment of BSE health status in the country which has made the request.

ART. 4. The health conditions for entry into the national territory of bovine animals and products of bovine origin may be lifted on a proposal for which the prohibition has been lifted in accordance with Article 3 shall be laid down by the Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority.

ART. 5. - If, in the territory of a country for which the prohibition has been lifted, the BSE-related health status changes, or if there is any phenomenon related to BSE, which is likely to present a serious danger to animal health or human health, or following a finding of non-compliance with the health conditions laid down in Article 4, the Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority may implement the following measures:

- Seizure of imported goods; These products may be destroyed if the epidemiological investigation reveals dangers to the health of consumers;

- Quarantine of imported bovines; The slaughter of such bovine animals may be ordered on the basis of the results of an epidemiological survey;
- Suspension of imports from the country concerned;
- Establishment of special conditions for the importation of bovine animals or products from the country concerned.

ART. 6. Slaughter of bovine animals imported in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of this Decree and their direct descendants may be carried out only in a slaughterhouse designated for this purpose by the Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority and equipped to carry out the tests intended for the detection of BSE, the removal of specified risk material as defined in Article 2.

Meat and offal from imported bovine animals and their direct descendants aged over 24 months at the time of slaughter may not be released for human or animal consumption until the specific risk materials have been removed for destruction and a negative result has been obtained in a BSE test. All costs pertaining to the carrying out of this test are charged to the owner of the animal or animals.

In the event of a positive result, the sanitary measures provided for by [Ministerial Order No 2015-01](#) of November 5, 2001 on complementary and special measures for the fight against BSE apply.

ART. 7. – This repeals The Order of the Minister of Agriculture and Agricultural Development [No. 738-96 of kaada 29, 1416 \(April 18, 1996\)](#) on prohibiting entry into the national territory of live animals, the bovine species, animal products, products of animal origin, animal propagation product, derived bovine animals originating in or coming from certain countries, as amended or supplemented,

ART. 8. - The Director of Food Safety is responsible for the implementation of this Order which will be published in the Official Gazette.

Rabat, kaada 10, 1430 (October 29, 2009)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND MARITIME FISHERIES, AZIZ AKHANNOUCH.