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Date: 8/17/2017

GAIN Report Number:

Colombia

Post: Bogota

Colombia Issues Phytosanitary Import Requirements for U.S. Paddy Rice

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

Export Accomplishments - Market Access

Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

On August 8, 2017 the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) sent an official letter to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) informing the phytosanitary requirements for imported paddy rice coming from the United States. This is the final step for removing restrictions on U.S. paddy rice that limited exports to the port of Barranquilla, and means that U.S. paddy rice exporters will have greater flexibility when choosing a Colombian port of destination.

General Information:

The United States is the only country allowed to export rough/paddy rice to Colombia for commercial use; however national regulations restricted U.S. paddy rice access to only the port of Barranquilla. This restriction was due to concerns over the presence in U.S. paddy rice of *Tilletia horrida*, a plant pathogen. ICA conducted an epidemiologic study that determined the presence of *Tilletia horrida* in Colombian rice producing regions. Given the study results, in June 2017, ICA annulled the Resolution 3196 of 2012 which limited U.S. paddy rice exports to only one port (Barranquilla) and removed the phytosanitary pest *Tilletia horrida* from Colombia’s official pest list.

On August 9, 2017 ICA released the phytosanitary requirements to import U.S. rough rice into Colombia. This is the final step for removing restrictions on U.S. paddy rice that limited exports to the port of Barranquilla, and means that U.S. paddy rice exporters will have greater flexibility when choosing a Colombian port of destination.

Below is an UNOFFICIAL translation of the phytosanitary requirements provided by APHIS Bogota.

PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR PADDY RICE (*Oryza Sativa*) FROM THE UNITED STATES

(08/11/2017)

DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT	
Product	Rough Rice
Product presentation	Grain
Scientific name	<i>Oryza sativa</i>
Country of origin	United States of America (USA)
Exporting country	United States of America (USA)
Use or destination	Industrial use/Commercial
REQUIREMENTS	
<p>The phytosanitary certificate from the country of origin must have the following additional declaration: The consignment is free of: <i>Cryptolestes pusillus</i> <i>Oryzaephilus mercator</i> <i>Trogoderma variabile</i>. <i>Alternaria padwickii</i> is not known to occur in the United States. Pre-shipment treatment with aluminum phosphide (phosphide) fumigant (under recirculation system) at the following dosage rates:</p> <p>3 gr/m³ (tablets)/11 days at temperatures 5-12°C; 3 gr/m³ (tablets)/6 days at temperatures 12-15°C; 3 gr/m³ (tablets)/5 days at temperatures 16-20°C; 3 gr/m³ (tablets)/4 days at temperatures 20°C or above or 3 gr/m³ (pelletss)/9 days at 5-12 °C; 3 gr/m³ (pellets)/5 days at 12-15 °C; 3 gr/m³ (pellets)/4 days at 16-20 °C; 3 gr/m³ (pellets)/3 days at temperatures 20°C or above, or, Pre-shipment treatment with methyl bromide (MB) at the following dosage rates:</p> <p>40 gr/m³/12 hours at temperatures 32°C or above. Concentrations (g/m3) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (30 g/m3) - 2 hrs (20 g/m3) - 12hrs (15 g/m3) ; 56 gr/m³/12 hours at temperatures of 27-31°C. Concentrations (g/m3) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (42 g/m3) - 2 hrs (30 g/m3) - 12hrs (20 g/m3); 72 gr/m³/12 hours at temperatures of 21-26°C. Concentration (g/m3) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (54 g/m3) - 2 hrs (40</p>	

g/m³) - 12hrs (25 g/m³);

96 gr/m³/12 hours of temperatures of 16-20°C. Concentration (g/m³) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (72 g/m³) - 2 hrs (50 g/m³) - 12hrs (30 g/m³);

120 gr/m³/12 hours of temperature of 10-15°C. Concentration (g/m³) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (90 g/m³) - 2 hrs (60 g/m³) - 12hrs (35 g/m³);

144 gr/m³/12 hours of temperature of 4-9°C. Concentration (g/m³) after the readings: 0.5 hrs (108 g/m³) - 2 hrs (70 g/m³) - 12hrs (40 g/m³)

The product will be packaged in new packaging (if not bulk). The shipment must be free of weed seeds. The material must be free of soil. Phytosanitary inspection at the point of entry.

Warning:

Plants or plant products or other regulated articles imported into the Colombian territory must request the import permit through DRFI (Documento de Requisitos Fito-sanitarios para Importación).

DRFI = Official document that authorizes the importation of a basic product in compliance with the specified Documento de requisitos fitosanitarios para importación.

Import requirements: Specific phytosanitary requirements established by ICA concerning shipments moving to the Colombian territory.

Note:

This document is not a DRFI, it is not valid as an import permit.

Please remember to consult periodically. If there is a phytosanitary emergency that pose plant health risk to the country, ICA will update the phytosanitary requirements to mitigate risk or modify the applicable phytosanitary requirements for entry, To obtain additional information, please write to the National Plant Quarantine Service at cuarentena.vegetal@ica.gov.co or call 3323700 ext., 1169, 1176, 1179.