

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** April 25, 2022

**Report Number:** CA2022-0012

**Report Name:** Canada Import Requirements for Pet Chews from Animal Products and By-Products

**Country:** Canada

**Post:** Ottawa

**Report Category:** Livestock and Products

**Prepared By:** Alexandra Watters

**Approved By:** Philip Hayes

**Report Highlights:**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has provided notice that CFIA will modernize the approach for import requirements for pet chews made from animal products and by-products. Designed to simplify the process to categorize pet chews for import, strengthen controls on microbiological testing, and update the eligible countries list from which pet chews will be eligible for import into Canada. Further details are expected in advance of the May 2, 2022, implementation date and CFIA has noted that there will be a 12-month transition period through which imported product will be accepted using either the new or previous import conditions.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has [notified](#) industry of upcoming changes to import requirements for pet chews made from animal product and by-products. The intended implementation date is May 2, 2022, and CFIA will allow for a 12-month transition period during which imported product will be accepted using either the new or previous import conditions. While additional details are pending, CFIA has noted that these changes will simplify the categorization process for pet chews, strengthen controls on microbiological testing to reduce the risk of *Salmonella* infections in pets and owner, and update the list of countries eligible to export product to Canada. Countries will be required to have a veterinary infrastructure and certification system recognized by Canada. The [Automated Import Reference System](#) (AIRS) will be updated once the changes are published.

Rawhide chews will now require a product label or list of ingredients which specifies that the product contains rawhide and that it is the only animal origin ingredient. Microbiological testing requirements for chews will remain the [same](#) (5 random samples per lot or shipment) but CFIA will introduce an additional requirement for those testing results to be clearly linked to the shipment or lot number on the import documentation.

CFIA will establish the categorization of pet chews by species of origin (e.g., bovine, porcine, etc.) and whether the chew contains bone or tissues other than bone. A simple pet chew, falling under Chapter 5 and 23, must be made exclusively from animal by-products (e.g., ears, tails, etc.). Should the chew contain any meat or meat meal in addition to the by-products (e.g., a hoof or rawhide stuffed with meat meal), it would be defined as a compound chew under Chapter 23. Canada's customs tariff classifications can be found on the Canadian Border Services Agency [webpage](#).

Canada regulates pet food and pet treats/chews according to the *Health of Animals Regulations*. CFIA has published several [guidance documents](#) on import policies for pet food, treats, and chews for personal and commercial imports. Questions about the import requirements changes can be addressed to CFIA at:

[APABPImport@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:APABPImport@inspection.gc.ca)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.