

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Pakistan

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Pakistan Opens Door for Imports of U.S. Cattle

Report Categories:

Dairy and Products

Trade Policy Monitoring

Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and Pakistan's Ministry of National Food Security and Research have reached agreement over the terms of the health certificate that will accompany shipments of U.S. cattle to Pakistan. The agreement paves the way for future exports of U.S. cattle to Pakistan.

Pakistan Opens Door for Imports of U.S. Cattle

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and Pakistan's Ministry of National Food Security and Research have reached agreement over the terms of the health certificate that will accompany shipments of U.S. cattle to Pakistan. The agreement lifts Pakistan's effective ban on imports of U.S. cattle. Exporters seeking to export to Pakistan should coordinate with their local USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service office to proceed with the certification process.

A relatively small group of investors has introduced modern dairy farming practices in Pakistan over the past decade. As a result, Pakistan has emerged as a market for bull semen, dairy equipment, and live cattle. There are an estimated 15 farms with over 1,000 head of dairy cattle and the largest has a 6,500 cow herd. Australia has been the primary supplier of live cattle, but importers are considering alternate supply options. In addition to the United States, the Netherlands gained access recently.

Preliminary data suggests that 2014 exports of live cattle to Pakistan dropped to the lowest level since 2007 when exports began. Industry sources cite rising feed costs and declining milk prices as one reason for the drop in demand for imported cattle. Others indicate that the industry may be going through a period of transition that has prompted some farms to reconsider their import and herd replenishment options. A number of members of Pakistan's dairy industry have visited the United States and attended the World Dairy Expo. Awareness of the benefits of U.S. cattle is high. Time will tell if the economics of importing U.S. cattle will work for local dairy herds.

Dairy Cattle Exports to Pakistan (head)



