

April 21, 1992

VETERINARY SERVICES NOTICE

Subject: Importation of Feeder Sheep and Goats From Mexico

To: Directors, VS Regions  
Area Veterinarians in Charge, VS  
Port Veterinarians, VS

The purpose of this Notice is to provide specific procedures and health safeguards for the importation of feeder goats and sheep from Mexico. We believe the following requirements will minimize the risk of introducing diseases and pests into the U.S. livestock population and qualify each imported animal:

1. The importer must obtain an import permit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, Import-Export Animals Staff, Room 764, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
2. The sheep and goats must be castrated males and comply with the provisions for the importation of ruminants from Mexico indicated in Parts 92.424, 92.425 and 92.426, Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (9 CFR). Imported goats must also comply with the certification and tuberculosis test requirements of Part 92.428, 9 CFR. Please be reminded that sheep and goats imported from Mexico must also comply with Part 92.427(b) relative to certification and treatment for fever ticks (see statement 5 below).
3. Each feeder sheep and goat must be identified with a USDA-approved aluminum, rubber, or other type of eartag placed in the left ear and a legible "M" tattoo applied in the right ear.
4. The sheep are to be shorn within 30 days prior to entry into the United States in order to conform to the non-subsidy provisions of the Wool Act.
5. The sheep and goats shall be accompanied to a U.S. port of entry by a certification of inspection and dipping executed by a Mexican-government-designated veterinarian. The certificate will indicate that the animals were free of ectoparasites and were dipped in a tickicide approved by the Mexican Animal Health Officials within 7 to 12 days of presentation for entry according to the requirements contained in Parts 92.427(b)(1) and (2), 9 CFR.
6. The sheep shall be held at the port of entry, receive a chute-side inspection by a USDA inspector, and be dipped for ticks in a .25 percent coumaphos solution.
7. The sheep and goats shall be treated for scabies mites 3 days following the treatment for ticks in a 2 percent lime sulfur dip. Both treatments shall be accomplished under USDA supervision. To ensure the efficacy of the treatment, the lime sulfur shall be either heated to maintain a temperature of 95 to 105 degrees F during the dipping process or a wetting agent shall be added to the dip solution prior to dipping the sheep and goats.

/s/

Billy G. Johnson  
Acting Deputy Administrator  
Veterinary Services