

Establishments Receiving Cattle and Sheep

Cattle

Establishments Receiving Cattle: Specified Risk Materials (SRMs)

Although there are no food safety requirements related to the receipt of animals from Canada, FSIS is reiterating that establishments receiving cattle from Canada are subject to SRM regulations.

Therefore, in accordance with 9 CFR 310.22(e)(3) an establishment must evaluate the effectiveness of its procedures for the removal, segregation, and disposition of SRMs as incorporated into its HACCP plan, SSOP or prerequisite program (9CFR 310.22(e)(1)) whenever a change occurs that could affect the procedures such as ensuring that the Canadian animals are properly identified.

Cattle: Specified Risk Materials (SRMs)

Cattle will be considered to be 30 months of age or older, unless the establishment can demonstrate through documentation that the cattle are younger than 30 months of age (9 CFR 310.22(h)).

Establishments Receiving Cattle: HACCP Plans

In accordance with 9 CFR 417.4(a)(3) an establishment is to reassess its HACCP plan when there is a change in raw materials or in the source of raw materials. Therefore, an official establishment that begins to receive eligible cattle from Canada will need to evaluate its SRM procedures and reassess its HACCP plan and incorporate any necessary changes.

Establishments Receiving Cattle: "As a group" Slaughter

The establishment must have procedures in place to ensure that animals arriving from Canada for immediate slaughter are slaughtered "as a group" as described in 9 CFR 93.436 (a)(6). Bovines can be slaughtered as a single group or separated into two groups, 30 months of age and older and less than 30 months of age. These groups may each move through separately.

Establishments Receiving Cattle: Verification of animal numbers

The establishment must have procedures in place to ensure the number of animals received matches the number of animals listed on the shipping documentation.

Establishments Receiving Cattle: Verification of Animal Identification and Age

If the establishment receives Canadian animals for immediate slaughter, they must ensure that each animal is individually identified by an official Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) ear tag.

Sheep/Goats

Establishments Receiving Sheep or Goats: HACCP Plans

SRM requirements do not apply to sheep and goats. However, an establishment receiving sheep or goats from Canada must reassess its HACCP plan and ensure that sheep and goats presented for slaughter are younger than 12 months of age.

Establishments Receiving Sheep or Goats: Age Identification

Sheep and goats will be considered to be 12 months of age and older unless the establishment can demonstrate through records or other means that the sheep or goats are younger than 12 months of age.

Establishments Receiving Sheep or Goats: "As a Group" Slaughter

The establishment should have procedures in place to ensure that animals arriving from Canada for immediate slaughter are slaughtered as a group.

Establishments Receiving Sheep or Goats: Animal Identification and Age

If the establishment receives Canadian animals for immediate slaughter, they are responsible for having procedures in place that can ensure that each animal is individually identified by an official Canadian Food Inspection Agency ear tag and is eligible for slaughter. To facilitate the determination as to whether animals are eligible for slaughter, a prudent establishment should also maintain the identity of the animals from Canada via a feedlot until the marks of inspection are applied.

Canada origin animals that lose their Canadian ID in U.S. feedlots may be retagged with an official USDA

ear tag under the direct supervision of an accredited veterinarian, or a state or USDA veterinarian.

Establishments Receiving Sheep or Goats: Animal Numbers

The establishment must have procedures in place to ensure the number of animals received matches the number of animals listed on the shipping documentation. Shipping documentation will include the appropriate VS Form (either 17-33 or 1-27) and the associated Canadian Health Certificates.