

Enactment of ISA for Animal Products

In accordance with revision of the 「Special Act on Imported Food Safety Control」 on 13 June 2023, as **the Import Sanitation Assessment (ISA)**, currently being conducted for livestock products, will **be expanded to 'Animal products' starting from 14 June 2024**, importation of animal products will be allowed **only from approved countries**.

* **'Animal products'** indicates edible meat, raw milk and eggs or **'food (processed meat containing products, processed egg containing products and other meat and eggs)'** processed with them as main ingredients as defined in Article 2 of the 「Food Sanitation Act」 manufactured.

ISA is an MFDS system which **assesses overall sanitation control system** for livestock products of a country **when there is a request for import approval** of livestock products from the country, and importation will be finally approved, if verified that its system is **equivalent or stricter than that of Korea**. This type of verification process is widely being adopted in many countries.

To expand ISA for animal products before importation will enhance safety of imported food and contribute to **raising Korean consumers' trust against imported foods**.

Meanwhile, MFDS has given **a grace period to the countries with previous history** of exporting animal products **before enactment** of the revised Act (refer to below) so that they will be able to export such products **until 13 June 2025**.

Thus, any business operators, **who are currently importing animal products from such countries or are intended to import any products from the countries**, are needed to notify the revision of the Act to **the exporting country's government and applicable establishments for export** so that they **apply for import approval** to MFDS.

For more details including target product type and the enforcement date, please refer to following. If you have any further inquiries in relation to this matter, please contact the On-site Inspection Division of MFDS (leetaekyung@korea.kr / mscho80@korea.kr).

◆ Target product type

- (Animal Products) 'processed meat containing products' and 'processed egg containing products' 'other meat' and 'other eggs' classified under the 「Korean Food Code」
 - 17-8. Processed meat containing products : Products manufactured or processed using meat as a main ingredient but not classified as livestock products under 17-1 to 17-7 of the Food Code
 - 18-2. Processed egg containing products : Products manufactured or processed using eggs as a main ingredient but not classified as livestock products under 18-1 of the Food Code
 - 21-1. Other meat or other egg products : Meat or eggs obtained from animals not classified as livestock under the 「Livestock Sanitation Control Act」(eggs, carcass, dressed meat, viscera or other edible part of animals for human consumption)

◆ Enforcement date (different by individual countries)

- (Countries allowed for import of raw meat-edible eggs) continue to export animal products to Korea without additional ISA.
 - * The list of countries applicable to this category will be based on the [Appendix] 「Countries(Regions) allowed for Import of Livestock Products and Import Sanitation Requirements」
- (Countries not allowed for import raw meat-edible eggs but with previous history of export to Korea) will be able to export animal products until 13 June 2025(as of Dec 2023, 7 countries*)

* processed meat containing processed products China, Vietnam, Philippines, Belarus, Indonesia

processed egg containing processed products China, Vietnam, India, Malaysia

- If the exporting country's government does not apply for import approval and, therefore, the country is not contained on the list of countries for import approval, **importation of animal products from the country to Korea will not be allowed from 14 June 2025.**

➡ *As procedures for ISA may take more than a year depending on the level of cooperation, it is advised for the government of exporting countries to apply for import approval in time.

- o (Countries **not** allowed for import raw meat-edible eggs and with **no** previous history of export to Korea) **will not be allowed for importation of animal products from 14 June 2024**, so ISA shall be required.

◆ Procedures for ISA (6steps)

- o The same assessment procedures for livestock products will apply to animal products, so when the exporting country's government makes a request for import approval, the procedures will be initiated from the step^①.

* ^①Sending the ISA questionnaire → ^②Reviewing answers → ^③Conducting on-site audit → ^④Determining import approval → ^⑤Negotiating import sanitation requirements → ^⑥Registering establishments allowed for export

Animal Products for ISA

