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Canadian Feedlot Program for Certifying Freedom from Growth Enhancing Products (GEPs) for Export of Beef to the EU

- Specific requirements for Canadian feedlots to export beef to the EU are documented in CFIA's *Users' Manual* and *Annex R* which are located on the website for your use. We encourage you to read these documents carefully if you intend to feed and sell EU cattle to a federally approved EU processing plant.

- Below is a short summary of the program's main points to help you decide whether or not you want to participate in the EU hormone free export program.

- There are two quota programs to export beef to the EU:

    - **Hilton Quota** – export of hormone free beef to the EU based on grading characteristics and no specific feeding requirements in the last 100 DOF, but this beef is imposed a tariff on entry to the EU.

    - **EU Tariff Rate Quota for High Quality Beef** – export of hormone free beef, which has no tariff imposed on it on entry to the EU.

- We will summarize below the main requirements for a feedlot to participate in the EU Tariff Rate Quota for High Quality Beef.

Enrollment

- Feedlot producers must contact their feedlot veterinarian and inquire if they are approved as a CFIA Accredited Veterinarian to participate in the EU program. Vets accredited by CFIA to export cattle to the USA are not automatically approved to participate in CFIA's EU program. They must take another training course and be approved by their CFIA District Office prior to helping you implement the EU program (Annex R14.1).

- The CFIA Approved Veterinarian will come to your feedlot and review the program requirements with you and do an on-site assessment (Annex R12) to ensure you can meet the EU program requirements. They will help you complete the application form (Annex R14.2) and Certificate of Compliance (Annex R7.1) and submit it to your CFIA District Office once they have confirmed you can meet all the EU program requirements.

- The application form contains a producer declaration stating that the producer understands and will abide by all of the requirements of the EU program.

- Once the CFIA District office has approved your application form based on your ability to successful implement all of the program requirements to the satisfaction of the CFIA Approved Veterinarian and the CFIA District Veterinarian, the cattle that you subsequently purchase and feed as per EU program requirements will be eligible for the EU market.

- Your CFIA Approved Veterinarian will conduct a feedlot audit six months after your enrollment to confirm you are still in compliance with the EU program requirements.

- The EU application form must be renewed yearly.

Receiving Eligible EU Cattle

- Only cattle that come from a CFIA EU registered farm, another CFIA EU registered backgrounding feedlot, or a CFIA EU registered auction market are eligible for you to include in the EU program. Cattle must meet EU program requirements from birth to slaughter.

- All eligible cattle must arrive with a CCIA eartag and a completed signed Transfer Certificate (Annex R7) and a copy of the herd of origin's EU Certificate of Compliance (Annex R7.1). You must store and file these documents carefully for future reference and to help you later complete your EU Cattle Registry (Annex R6).

- During induction processing, you must confirm that all the EU cattle that you have received are listed on the EU Transfer Certificate (Annex R7) by crosschecking CCIA eartags in each animal through the chute to the CCIA eartag # listed on the Transfer Certificate.

    - If any animals were received that are not listed on the Transfer Certificate, they must be excluded from the EU Program unless the previous owner can provide a supplemental CFIA accepted transfer certificate to confirm the eligibility of those EU animals.

    - Any animals missing a CCIA eartag where there is no cross identification e.g. ranch eartag linked to the CCIA eartag # on the Transfer Certificate to confirm the identity of the animal must be excluded from the EU program.

- During induction processing, 10% of the animals must have their ears palpated for implants. If the cattle have arrived from a ranch where cattle were raised that also had implants e.g. community pasture (mixed operation) or cattle arrived from the auction market, then 100% of the ears (both ears) of all animals must be palpated to ensure that there are no implants in the ears.

    - If any implants are found in the ears, this group of cattle are not eligible for the EU program and your CFIA Approved Veterinarian and CFIA District Veterinarian must be contacted for an investigation. Pending the results of the investigation, none or some of the animals may be eligible for the EU.

- If a feedlot receives EU cattle from an auction market, they must inform the herd of origin within 14 days which EU cattle they received so the herd of origin can update their EU Cattle Registry (Annex R5).

- The feedlot must keep a registry of all EU cattle they receive (Annex R6). During induction processing, the feedlot must cross link the incoming CCIA eartags with the feedlot management tags they apply, which must have a unique # for trace-back purposes.

    - If the feedlot also feeds non-EU cattle that receive growth-enhancing products like implants or MGA or beta-agonists in the feed, the EU feedlot tags must be visually distinguishable from other feedlot management tags.

- EU cattle must be housed separately from non-EU cattle from arrival to slaughter, including in hospital pens. If the feedlot also feeds non-EU cattle feed additives like MGA or beta-agonists, cattle must be housed so there is no bunk or feed cross contamination to EU cattle e.g. house EU cattle in a separate feed alley.

Feeding

- EU cattle must be fed a high-energy diet the last 100 days on feed to meet the EU high quality beef requirements (Annex R13).

- Cattle must be fed a finishing ration that is not less than 62% concentrates and/or feed grain co-products on a dietary dry matter basis that meets or exceeds a metabolisable energy content of greater than 12.26 mega joules per one kilogram of dry matter.

- The cattle must also consume on average no less than 1.4% of their live body weight per day on a dry matter basis.

- Cattle must also be under 30 months of age at slaughter.

- The feedlot must have the required feeding records that the CFIA Approved Veterinarian and CFIA District Veterinarian can review and confirm that this feeding does occur as per EU program requirements prior to approval of the feedlot for registration in this program.

- The CFIA Approved Veterinarian must review the required feeding records for each shipment of EU cattle to slaughter and complete Annex R14.3 attesting that the shipped animals have met the feeding program requirements. Annex R14.3 must accompany the cattle at shipment.

Transfer of Cattle out of the Feedlot

- Once the EU feedlot cattle are ready for shipment to an EU approved processing facility or to an EU approved finishing feedlot, you must create a Transfer Certificate for the animals (Annex R7) listing all the eligible individual animals being shipped.

- Your completed and signed Transfer Certificate (Annex R7) and a copy of your Certificate of Compliance (Annex R7.1) and a signed copy of Annex R14.3 must accompany the EU cattle to their next destination.

- If you ship fewer cattle than listed on your Transfer Certificate the next owner e.g. processor must send you back a listing of those individual animals they received so that you can update your Cattle Registry (Annex R6).

- The feedlot cattle registry (Annex R6) must link the transfer certificate # of the incoming EU cattle that you received to the transfer certificate # of the outgoing cattle that you shipped.

Record Keeping Requirements

- If any cattle lose their CCIA eartag, a record of the replacement CCIA eartag and the previous CCIA eartag must be kept (Annex R9).

- The feedlot must have a written organizational structure showing who is responsible for the various duties in the EU program prior to program approval.

- If the feedlot also implants cattle or feeds non-EU cattle MGA or beta—agonists, they must have a written program demonstrating how they identify and segregate cattle and ensure no mixing of EU and non-EU cattle or cross contamination of feed between EU and non-EU cattle.

- The feedlot must also have a drug inventory listing that can be reconciled for implant purchases and usage.

- The feedlot must have a written letter from their feed mill demonstrating that they have procedures in place to ensure incoming feeds fed to EU cattle do not contain residues of growth enhancing products.

- The feedlot must keep a copy of all records on file for two years after the cattle were received:

    - EU application form (Annex 14.2)
    - Incoming rancher or backgrounding yard Transfer Certificates (Annex R7) and their certificates of compliance (Annex R7.1)
    - Feeding records (ration formulations, dates pen is fed qualifying rations, in weight, DMI, # cattle in pen)
    - For each load of shipped cattle, the feedlot's Transfer Certificate (Annex R7) and Annex 14.3 (feeding requirement attestation)
    - CFIA Approved Veterinarian's on-site assessment reports (Annex R12)
    - Lost Tag Replacement Report (Annex R9)
    - Feedlot Cattle Registry (Annex R6)
    - Ear tag inspection record of incoming EU cattle