March 1, 2018

Subject: Slaughter Cattle Endorsement Services for Arizona

To: Arizona cattlemen, exporters, and accredited veterinarians

Beginning February 28, 2018, endorsement services for the export of slaughter cattle to from Arizona to Mexico only will be provided by APHIS-Veterinary Services at the Port of Nogales on Mondays, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM by appointment only, scheduled at least 48 hours in advance. The Port of Nogales is located at 200 N. Mariposa Rd., Room B617, Nogales, AZ 85621. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Nogales office at 520-287-4172 during business hours, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message with instructions on how to reach you.

Endorsement services for all other animals or for all other countries exported from Arizona will be provided by the VS Albuquerque Office, located at 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 320, Albuquerque, NM 87109. The Albuquerque office endorses certificates by appointment only, and office personnel can be contacted by email at vspsnm@aphis.usda.gov or by phone at 505-313-8056.

It is the responsibility of the accredited veterinarian to issue the health certificate “accurately and fully completed, clearly identifying the animals to which it applies, and showing the dates and results of any inspection, test, vaccination, or treatment the accredited veterinarian has conducted” [9CFR, Part 161.4(b)]. Incomplete or inaccurate certificates will not be endorsed and will be returned for correction, which may delay the endorsement process and cattle movement.

Accredited veterinarians should review carefully the APHIS animal export webpage (IREGs) via the link below for the requirements for the export of slaughter cattle to Mexico:

The health certificate (HC) for slaughter cattle is composed of two documents:

1) Slaughter cattle health certificate, and
2) Addendum-list of animals covered by the health certificate

In addition, the following two documents must accompany the health certificate:

3) Affidavit of the owner/exporter for restrictive drugs, and
4) Addendum of veterinary certification

The process to export slaughter cattle to Mexico is similar to the process to export breeding cattle to Mexico. Inspection of slaughter cattle will be performed in pens at the border port. To become familiar with the export process, please refer to the document, Guidelines to Export Breeding Cattle from the United States to Canada and Mexico, via the following link, https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/downloads/mx_bred_ca.pdf. Please contact the Nogales Port office for assistance if you have questions after reviewing the IREGs.

It is the responsibility of the exporter to coordinate delivery of the health certificate(s) and supporting documents to the staff at Nogales (or Douglas, AZ, which is the backup port office for endorsement, if the Nogales Port Veterinarian is covering Douglas). Certificates endorsed outside of regular business hours will incur overtime charges in addition to endorsement charges ($56 per slaughter cattle certificate). Exporters are responsible for paying all charges at the time services are provided. Accepted forms of payment include APHIS credit accounts, credit cards, and checks and money orders made out to USDA in U.S. funds.

The Albuquerque Office can provide endorsement services, if port personnel are unavailable. The office generally provides same-day endorsements for in-person appointments, or overnight endorsements when documents are delivered to the office by express mail with pre-paid return express mail envelops. Please contact them at the address above to coordinate endorsement services.

Regards,

David M. Ewey, DVM, MPVM
Director, Service Center 6
(AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA; AS, GM, MF)
National Import/Export Services
USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services