

Animal health requirements for straw and forage for feeding to be exported to Japan from the People's Republic of China

Animal health requirements for straw and forage for feeding to be exported to Japan from the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "straw and forage") are as follows:

1. Straw and forage must be originally derived from the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the PRC").
2. Straw and forage must be produced, processed and stored at a place 50 km radius area of which has been free from Foot and Mouth Disease, Rinderpest and African Swine Fever for at least 3 years (※) .
(※) Foot and Mouth Disease, Rinderpest and African Swine Fever are specified as a notifiable disease in PRC, and an effective continuous surveillance and monitoring system is practiced under supervision of the PRC animal health authorities .
3. Straw and forage must be clean and must not be tainted or contaminated with excretion, secretion and others derived from cloven-hoofed animals.
4. The raw material processing facilities (hereinafter referred to as "the approved processing facilities") where straw and forage to be exported to Japan are processed (cut, packing, etc.) must be approved by the PRC animal health authorities.
5. The measures for preventing occurrence of sanitary hazards (covering straw and forage with sheet, etc.) must be taken during transportation from the approved processing facilities to the designated facilities (defined in item 7).
6. Straw and forage must be subjected to the action of steam for at least 10 minutes and at a minimum temperature of 80°C in an air-tight chamber.
7. The facilities for steaming straw and forage must be designated by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as those that are allowed to handle the exported straw and forage to Japan (hereinafter referred to as "the designated facilities"), and must meet the following standards:

7-1 The area for handling untreated straw and forage, and the area for

handling treated straw and forage (※) must be completely isolated from each other, except that the two areas are connected by an air-tight steaming chamber with two doors which are opened respectively to the area for handling untreated straw and forage or to the area for handling treated straw and forage. Both of the two doors cannot be opened at one time.

(※) The area for steaming straw and forage must have steaming equipment furnished with implements for inspection such as automatic temperature recorder and the area for subsequent handling up to storage must have equipment and implements for package and storage.

7-2 The area for handling untreated straw and forage (and the area for steaming straw and forage) and the area for storage must, in order to prevent recontamination after steam processing, have their own operators and facilities such as entrance and exit, locker room, toilet, etc. Operators of each area must wear differently colored uniform so that the operators of one area are distinguishable from those of the other area.

7-3 The series of operation must be carried out in the one-way manner through handling untreated straw and forage to storing steamed straw and forage.

7-4 The designated facilities must have floors, walls and ceilings that are smooth and easy to clean and floors must be made of impermeable material, sloped properly and provided with drainage and can be easily disinfected. (However, the existing facilities are allowed to have no ceiling, if the exposed beams, roof panels etc. are cleaned as instructed by the Japanese animal health authorities.)

7-5 The designated facilities must be equipped with a procedural manual for preventing occurrence of sanitary hazards in a series of the processing procedure including the area for handling untreated straw and forage, the area for steaming straw and forage and the area for handling treated straw and forage.

8. The Japanese animal health authorities may be empowered to make on-site inspection of facilities applying for the designation as the designated facilities in order to confirm that the facilities fulfill the requirements in clause 7. If the designated facilities have been found not to meet the animal health requirements as the result of an inspection conducted by the Japanese animal health authorities, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan can revoke the designation of the designated facilities.

If the designated facilities intend to make an enlargement or reconstruction, the designated facilities must make an application to the

Japanese animal health authorities through and obtain permission to do so before the construction. After the construction, if the Japanese animal health authorities confirms that the facilities fulfill the requirements as the result of on-site inspection, the Japanese animal health authorities will allow the facilities to treat the exported straw and forage to Japan.

If the designated facility changes its name or address, the PRC animal health authorities shall notify to the Japanese animal health authorities immediately.

9. The Japanese animal health authorities may in principle, confirm the implementation of fumigation referred to in Clause 6 in the designated facilities, with consent of and in collaboration with the PRC animal health authorities.
10. In any of the following cases, the Japanese animal health authorities may revoke the designation of facilities and immediately suspend the import of straw and forage from such facilities.
 - (1) When the designated facilities do not meet the requirement in this document, especially those in Article 7.
 - (2) When it is found that the designated facilities are designated by a fraudulent or other unjust means.
 - (3) When it is found that the designated facilities commit a wrongful or unfaithful act in relation to the operation of the designated facilities.
 - (4) When the designated facilities do not comply with an order of the Japanese animal health authorities relevant to corrective measures to violations without any justifiable reasons.
 - (5) When the designated facilities do not export straw and forage to Japan for two years since the facilities were designated without any justifiable reasons.
 - (6) Unless otherwise mentioned in above items from (1) to (2) , when the designated facilities are found to be in violations of the animal health requirements and such violations cause or are likely to cause severe harm to animal health.
11. The straw and forage after being have been subjected to the action of steam, shall have been stored and conducted in such a way as to keep it from being contaminated with any causative agents of animal infectious diseases and no contact with a raw material until shipment to Japan.
12. The species, quantities, geographic source areas and dates of handling of the straw and forage which have been handled at the designated facilities

shall be recorded on the original records in each area. The original records shall be kept for at least two years at the designated facilities. The Japanese animal health authorities can conduct the inspection of the designated facilities and can require the original records.

13. The exported straw and forage to Japan must be put in a tight container under the supervision by the Japanese or the PRC animal health authorities. (※) The container must be sealed by the Japanese or the PRC animal health authorities with the seal which can be clearly identified. The form of the seal must be confirmed in advance by the Japanese animal health authorities. In case the said seal is found to have been broken or dropped out, etc. at the time of inspection after arrival in Japan, the straw and forage to Japan in question might be prohibited to be released into Japan. The container must be cleaned up and thoroughly disinfected in advance under the supervision of the PRC animal health authorities with chemicals approved by the said authorities.

(※) A tight container is that which can be closed by a door, same as or similar to those explained for General Cargo Container and Dry Cargo Container under International Organization for Standardization ; ISO.

14. In case of confirmation of an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, Rinderpest and African Swine Fever, in “Liaoning” and “Jilin” the PRC animal health authorities must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the relevant information.

15. The PRC animal health authorities is required to issue an inspection certificate for straw and forage to Japan, stating the following items in detail in English;

- (1) Each requirement of items 1, 2, 3, 6 and 11.
- (2) Identification number of the official seal, the container number etc of item 13.
- (3) Kind, weight, mark or identification, area of origin of straw and forage (in detail), and purpose, destination an imported place, name and address of consignor and consignee, date and place of shipment, name of ship or flight.
- (4) Registration number of the approved processing facilities.
- (5) Name, address and registration number of the designated facilities.
- (6) Steaming date of the exported straw and forage.