



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

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Secure Your Certificate Then Ship Notice for Exporters

August 1, 2013

The Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Programs must reiterate that all European Union countries and many other countries require export certificates to be **dated prior to shipment**. The exporter is responsible for requesting certificates to comply with this requirement. As stated per instructions, **certificates may require up to 5 business days for processing**.

Due to this European Union requirement, USDA-AMS-Dairy Programs must deny requests that are submitted after the departure date or submitted with insufficient time to review and process prior to the date of departure from the United States. In order to facilitate certificate issuance, exporters are encouraged to take the following steps:

1. Request the health certificate as soon as the consignment specific information is available. Certificate applications may be submitted without the container and seal numbers listed. When the container and seal numbers are available, request an amendment to the issued certificate. The EU has accepted amended certificates as long as the original certificate was dated prior to the date of departure from the United States.

Note: AMS will charge an administrative fee of one hour at the current Federal Register published rate for Dairy Program services for each export certificate. As of August 1, 2013, the rate is \$75.00 per certificate. There is an additional \$75.00 charge for any amended certificate.

2. Utilize the AMS Electronic Document Creation System (eDocs) for online applications at <http://www.etde.usda.gov/edocs>