Official health certificates: food-producing horses and horse products

Published by AGRINFO on 14 Nov 2025

Draft Commission Implementing Regulation as regards model certificates for entry into the Union of consignments of certain products of domestic solipeds origin intended for human consumption and certain categories of equine animals

Draft Annexes

What is changing and why?

The European Union (EU) prohibits the use of certain substances, such as thyrostatic (antithyroid) substances and stilbenes, during the lifetime of a horse if the meat from that horse is intended to be consumed as food in the EU. Non-EU countries involved in the production of horse meat must be listed in Regulation 2021/405, Annex-I.

The wording of the official certificates that must accompany consignments of these products currently reflects these requirements only for the exporting country; it does not include non-EU countries in which the horse was born and reared, if different from the exporting country. This draft Regulation intends to align the wording of the certificates so the requirements apply not only to the exporting country, but also to any non-EU country where the horse was born or reared (if different) - as described in Table 1.

Actions

Where a non-EU country is exporting horses or their products that originated in another non-EU country, the official veterinarian signing the export certificate must check that this additional non-EU country fully complies with the EU rules (including non-use of prohibited substances), and is listed with an “X” for “equine” in Annex-I of Regulation 2021/405.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) consultation closed on 30 December 2025.

Timeline

The amended certificates are expected to apply from **30 October 2026**.

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

Tables & Figures

Table 1
Points to be modified in the model official certificates

Regulation	Model certificate	Chapter	Point
2020/2235, Annex III	EQU	4	II.1.7
	MP-PREP	24	II.1.11
	MPNT	25	II.1.11
	MPST	26	II.1.11
2021/403, Annex II	EQUI-X	13	II.6
	EQUI-Y	14	II.6

AGRINFO
www.agrinfo.eu

Source: Draft Regulation and Draft Annexes

Disclaimer: *Under no circumstances shall COLEAD be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of information available on this website or any link to external sites. The use of the website is at the user's sole risk and responsibility. This information platform was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents do not, however, reflect the views of the European Union.*

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*