

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>ARGENTINA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: National Agriculture and Food Quality and Health Service (SENASA)
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Live animals, animal reproductive material, products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin, or goods containing these products, of species susceptible to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Countries which export to Argentina.
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Decision Matrix for the Importation of Live Animals, Animal Reproductive Material, Products, By-products and Derivatives of Animal Origin, or Goods Containing these Products, of Species Susceptible to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) into the Argentine Republic (23 pages).
5.	Description of content: Procedure for analysing the risk of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) being introduced into the Argentine Republic as a result of the importation of live animals, animal reproductive material, products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin, or goods containing these products, of species susceptible to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), in which the geographical origin with regard to its BSE situation, the infectivity of the product to be imported and its declared destination of use are taken into consideration and analysed as risk factors. The resulting decision matrix establishes, in accordance with the risk factors analysed, whether importation is to be authorised, restricted or banned.
6.	Objective and rationale: [X] food safety, [X] animal health, [] plant protection, [X] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests
7.	Nature of the urgent problem(s): The need to protect public and animal health and maintain Argentina's sanitary status with regard to BSE and to deal with the appearance of new cases or a fresh outbreak of the disease in affected countries and the known and unknown causes of this situation make an immediate update of the criteria for preventing BSE from entering the country necessary.

8.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) recommendations, the criteria adopted by the Scientific Steering Committee of the European Commission in its Final Opinion on the Geographical Risk of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (GBR), adopted on 6 July 2000, and technical opinions on the issue in accordance with the OIE International Animal Health Code, Chapter 3.2.13, were taken into consideration.
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: SENASA Resolution No. 117/02, available in Spanish from the National Focal Point and for consultation at http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar and published in the <i>Official Gazette</i> on 22 January 2002.
10.	Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): Immediately
11.	Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments: [] National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food National Office of Agri-Food Markets Av. Paseo Colón 922 (C1063ACW) PB, of. 40 Tel.: (54-11) 4349-2242 or 4349-2243 Fax. (54-11) 4349 2244 E-mail: gpetri@sagyp.mecon.gov.ar ecolom@sagyp.mecon.gov.ar