

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/565

2 April 2002

(02-1634)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - APHIS
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). Ruminants, meat and products Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Change in Disease Status of Finland because of BSE (2 pages).
5.	Description of content: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is amending the regulations by adding Finland to the list of regions where bovine spongiform encephalopathy exists because the disease has been detected in a native-born animal in that country. Finland has been listed among the regions that present an undue risk of introducing bovine spongiform encephalopathy into the United States. Therefore, the effect of this action is a continued restriction on the importation of ruminants that have been in Finland and meat, meat products, and certain other products of ruminants that have been in Finland. This action is necessary in order to update the disease status of Finland regarding bovine spongiform encephalopathy.
6.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
7.	Nature of the urgent problem(s): This rulemaking is necessary on an emergency basis to update the disease status of Finland regarding BSE.
8.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> . If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: APHIS is taking this action in accordance with Chapter 2.3.13 of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Animal Health Code.
9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available 67 FR 12831, 20 March 2002 (Available in English)

10. Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): This interim rule was effective 7 December 2001. APHIS will consider all comments we receive that are postmarked, delivered, or e-mailed by 20 May 2002.

11. Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments: [X] **National notification authority, [X] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:** The full text of this interim rule, including instructions for commenting, is available upon request to the address below:

United States SPS Enquiry Point/Notification Authority:
USDA/FAS/FSTSD
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