

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/765

11 July 2003

(03-3788)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Meat (beef and pork) and poultry products.
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All trading partners.
5.	Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Need To Complete New Registration Form and Importance of Compliance With Recordkeeping and Registration Requirements Under the Federal Meat and Poultry Products Inspection Regulations – Policy Statement and Request for Comments [Docket No.01-034N, 6 pages].
6.	Description of content: Since 1970, The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), 21 U.S.C. 642, and Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA), 21 U.S.C. 460(b), have required the registration of meat brokers; poultry products brokers; renderers; animal food manufacturers; wholesalers; warehousemen; and persons that engage in the business of buying, selling, and transporting in commerce, or importing any dead, dying, disabled, or diseased livestock or poultry, or parts of the carcasses of livestock or poultry that have died otherwise than by slaughter. Additionally, these parties, all official establishments, and carriers and importers of poultry or livestock carcasses or parts or products of poultry or livestock carcasses must keep commercial records which can be made available to representatives of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) upon request. Registration information and commercial records are critical to any FSIS investigation related to public health, food safety, or misbranding of meat or poultry products. FSIS intends to increase its enforcement of the registration and recordkeeping requirements of the Meat and Poultry Acts to ensure that all regulated businesses are maintaining commercial records in accordance with the law. In this notice, FSIS is also informing the public of the existence of a new registration form, which requires registrants to provide certain information not previously required. Businesses operating under the authority of the Meat and Poultry Acts must submit the new registration form to FSIS by 22 March 2004. The form is available for review at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/fsisforms/ .
7.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input 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

<p>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</p>
<p>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Available in English at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/Notices03.htm</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption: 22 March 2004</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: 22 March 2004</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments: 25 August 2003 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA</p>
<p>13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: United States SPS Enquiry Point/Notification Authority; USDA/FAS/FSTSD; ATTN: William Janis; Room 5545 South Agriculture Building, Stop 1027; 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250; Tel: (202) 720-9047.</p>