

3

Animal Product
Manual

Reference

Hides and Related By-Products

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Introduction

The *Hides and Related By-Products* section covers parts and by-products that come from the exterior of animals and birds. Following are examples of hides and related by-products:

- ◆ Bristles (of swine)
- ◆ Capes (with or **without** feathers)
- ◆ Feathers **only**
- ◆ Hair
- ◆ Hides
- ◆ Rawhide
- ◆ Skins

- ◆ Wool (of sheep)

What Is Not Covered

Not covered in this section are the following animal products and by-products:

- ◆ Animal glue and glue stock made from hide. May be imported as granules, flakes, or powder. Regulate as hide glue under [Animal Waste and Related By-Products](#)
- ◆ Hides and related by-products imported as trophies or that have been processed. Consider hides or skins attached to carcasses as trophies; regulate these products under [Trophies](#)
- ◆ Meals derived from exterior animal parts and ground hides; regulate these products under [Animal Waste and Related By-Products](#)
- ◆ Rawhide (as such, chopped, extruded, or coated) imported as toys or food for pets; regulate such products under [Pet Food, and Livestock, Poultry, and Aquaculture Feed](#)
- ◆ Collagen casings made from collagen obtained from hides; regulate such products under [Casings](#)



Since anthrax may be acquired by handling contaminated hides, wool, hair, or other similar material, carefully inspect such articles. Wear gloves and a face mask when handling these articles; and wash your hands thoroughly following handling. See the [Glossary](#) for more information about anthrax.


Validation of Authorized Entry by VS Permit

When a VS permit authorizes entry of hides or related by-products, match the following information on the shipping documents with that on the permit:

- ◆ Current date
- ◆ Description of the material
- ◆ Shipper
- ◆ Consignee
- ◆ Conditions spelled out on the permit

Follow [Table 3-7-1](#) as you match the permit with the shipping documents.




TABLE 3-7-1 Validate Importation Authorized Entry by a VS Permit

If the shipping documents:	And the:	Then:
Match the permit		RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
Do not match the permit	Permit has expired	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. HAVE the consignee contact VS, TTSPS (see Importation Authorized Entry by VS Permits on page 2-4-28) 3. SAFEGUARD the importation until you hear from VS, TTSPS
	Discrepancy is other than an expired permit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. CONTACT PPQ-VRS-AQI or PPQ-VRS-HQ personnel for further action (see Appendix H)

Locator

When a VS permit **does not** accompany an importation of hides or related by-products, use [Table 3-7-2](#) to determine the appropriate regulatory action to take.


TABLE 3-7-2 Where to Find Regulatory Action on Hides and Related By-Products Not Authorized by a VS Permit

If the hides or their by-products are:	And the importation is being entered as:	Then:
Rawhide	Other than pet food or toys ¹	RELEASE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Capes ◆ Hides ◆ Skins 		GO to Table 3-7-3
Feathers only		GO to Table 3-7-13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bristles ◆ Hair ◆ Wool 		GO to Table 3-7-14

¹ Rawhide chews, toys, and pet paraphernalia are regulated under [Pet Food, and Livestock, Poultry, and Aquaculture Feed](#) on page 3-18-1.

Hides, Skins, and Capes

TABLE 3-7-3 Regulatory Action on Hides, Skins, and Capes

If the importation is:	And is from:	Then:
Leather	Any animal	RELEASE
Tanned hides, skins, or capes	All animals except birds	RELEASE
	Birds	GO to Table 3-7-10
Chrome-tanned hides, skins, or capes	All animals except birds	RELEASE
	Birds	GO to Table 3-7-10
Hard-dried or flint-dried hides, skins, or capes	Goat, lamb, or sheep	GO to Table 3-7-5
	Other than goat, lamb, or sheep	GO to Table 3-7-4
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Important</p> <p>Fresh hides may also harbor noxious weeds.</p> </div> </div>	Swine	GO to Table 3-7-6
	Ruminants	GO to Table 3-7-7
	Birds	GO to Table 3-7-12
	Animals other than listed above	RELEASE

Hard-Dried or Flint-Dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Animals Other Than Goat, Lamb, or Sheep

Hard-dried or flint-dried untanned hides or skins **must** be dried to the extent that they look brittle enough to crack when bent. Continue to **Table 3-7-4** to determine the action to take.

TABLE 3-7-4 Hard-Dried or Flint-Dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Animals Other than Goat, Lamb, or Sheep

If the importation is:	And is from:	And the country or region of export is:	Then:
Hard-dried or flint-dried hides or skins of animals other than goat, lamb, or sheep	Swine	Affected with ASF	GO to Table 3-7-6
		Free from ASF	RELEASE
	Ruminants other than goat, lamb or sheep	→	RELEASE
	Birds	→	GO to Table 3-7-11
	Other than an animal class listed in the three cells above	→	RELEASE

Hard-Dried or Flint-Dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Goat, Lamb, or Sheep

Hard-dried or flint-dried hides or skins **must** be dried to the extent that they look brittle enough to crack when bent. Hard-dried or flint-dried hides or skins of goat, sheep, or lamb from countries where the khapra beetle are endemic **must** be inspected for this pest to prevent its entry. Because of a higher risk of khapra beetle on hides and skins from India and Sudan, a **mandatory** fumigation for this pest is required. Continue to **Table 3-7-5** to determine the action to take.

TABLE 3-7-5 Hard-Dried or Flint-Dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Goat, Lamb, or Sheep

If the importation is:	And the importation originated in or transited:	And upon inspecting the hides or skins you:	Then:
Hard-dried or flint-dried hides or skins of goat, lamb, or sheep	Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar (Burma), Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tunisia, or Turkey	Find khapra beetle	REQUIRE treatment, following T416 ¹ in the <i>Treatment Manual</i>
		Do not find khapra beetle	RELEASE
	India or Sudan	→	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. REQUIRE a written permit (7CFR§319.75) issued by PPQ's Permit Services Branch of Biological and Technical Services in Riverdale, MD 2. REQUIRE treatment, following T416¹ in the <i>Treatment Manual</i>
	Country other than one listed above	→	RELEASE

¹ Methyl bromide was a fumigant listed in the Treatment Manual (T416). Treatment with methyl bromide may result in foul odors because of the fumigant reacting with proteins in the hides or skins. Once formed, these disagreeable odors may be difficult or impossible to remove.

Hides, Skins, or Capes of Swine

To determine the action to take on hides, skins, or capes of swine, see [Table 3-7-6](#).


TABLE 3-7-6 Regulatory Action on Hides, Skins, or Capes of Swine

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is:	Then:
Hides, skins, or capes of swine	Free from ASF	—————→	GO to Table 3-7-7
	Affected with ASF	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
		Not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)

Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminants or Swine

To determine the action to take on untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminants or swine, see [Table 3-7-7](#).

TABLE 3-7-7 Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminants or Swine

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the hides, skins, or capes:	Then:
Untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminants and swine	Free from FMD	Are accompanied by adequate proof of origin ¹	RELEASE 
		Lack adequate proof of origin	REFUSE ENTRY
	Affected with FMD	Are moist or salted and packed in bundles or on pallets	GO to Table 3-7-8
		Are not soaking in a solution (usually referred to as wet salted or green salted)	GO to Table 3-7-8
		Are soaking in a salt solution containing mineral acid	GO to Table 3-7-9
		Are pickled and packed in barrels, casks, plastic bags, or tight cases	GO to Table 3-7-8
		◆ Are dehaired from being treated with lime ◆ Are pliable ◆ Are obviously processed (usually referred to as blue-chrome)	RELEASE

Be aware of ticks on fresh hides, primarily from Mexico. See [Table 3-17-5](#)

1 Documentary evidence of the country from which the product originates. Examples include a bill of lading, certificate of origin, invoice, label, or document on official letterhead prepared by the manufacturer, seller, or shipper.

Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminants and Swine from a Region of Origin Known to Be Affected with FMD and Packed in Bundles

Untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminants and swine from a region of origin known to be affected with FMD, and packed in bundles are **not** dried to the extent that they look brittle enough to crack if bent. They are moist or salted and packed in bundles or on pallets and are usually referred to as wet salted or green salted. They are **not** soaking in a solution; therefore, collecting 5 ml of solution for testing (see [Table 3-7-9](#)) is impossible.

TABLE 3-7-8 Regulatory Action on Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminants and of Swine from a Region of Origin Known to Be Affected with FMD and Packed in Bundles

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is:	Then:
Untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminants packed in bundles	Affected with FMD	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
		Not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)

Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminant and Swine from a Region of Origin Known to Be Affected with FMD and Pickled in Salt Solution Containing Mineral Acid

Untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminant and swine from a region of origin known to be affected with FMD and pickled in salt solution containing mineral acid are contained so that at least 5 ml (about a teaspoon) can be collected. (These hides, skins, or capes are usually pickled in a salt solution containing mineral acid and packed in barrels, casks, tight cases, or plastic bags).

PPQ **must** test the pH level using a pH determination paper strip. Paper strips can be purchased at medical supply stores. The paper strips **must** be able to determine a pH level between 4 and 9. Follow the directions that accompany the paper strips.

Continue to [Table 3-7-9](#) to determine the action to take.

TABLE 3-7-9 Untanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Ruminant or Swine from a Region of Origin Known to Be Affected with FMD, and Are Pickled in a Salt Solution Containing Mineral Acid

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the pH level of the importation is:	And the importation is:	Then:
Untanned hides, skins, or capes of ruminant or swine that are pickled in a salt solution containing mineral acid	Affected with FMD	Less than or equal to 5.0	—————→	RELEASE
		Greater than 5.0	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
			Not consigned to an approved establishment	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)

Tanned Hides, Skins, or Capes, and Chrome-tanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Birds

TABLE 3-7-10 Tanned Hides, Skins, or Capes, and Chrome-tanned Hides, Skins, or Capes of Birds

If the importation is:	And is from:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation:	Then:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Tanned hides, skins, or capes ◆ Chrome-tanned hides skins, or capes 	Birds			RELEASE

Hard-dried or Flint-dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Birds

TABLE 3-7-11 Hard-dried or Flint-dried Untanned Hides or Skins of Birds

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is for:	And the importation:	Then:
Hard-dried or flint-dried untanned hides or skins of birds	Affected with HPAI (H5N1)	◆ Scientific, educational, or research purposes	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
		◆ Consignment to a museum	Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Other than scientific, educational, or research purposes or consignment to a museum		REFUSE ENTRY
	Free from HPAI (H5N1)			RELEASE

Untanned Skins or Capes of Birds With or Without Feathers

TABLE 3-7-12 Untanned Skins or Capes of Birds and With or Without Feathers

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is for:	And the importation:	Then:
Untanned skins or capes of birds and with or without feathers	Affected with HPAI (H5N1) only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Scientific, educational, or research purposes ◆ Consignment to a museum 	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
			Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Other than scientific, educational, or research purposes or consignment to a museum	→	REFUSE ENTRY
	Affected with HPAI (H5N1) in combination with END	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Scientific, educational, or research purposes ◆ Consignment to a museum 	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
			Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Other than scientific, educational, or research purposes or consignment to a museum	→	REFUSE ENTRY
	Affected with END only	→	Is consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
		→	Is not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)
	Free from both END and HPAI (H5N1)	→		RELEASE

Feathers Only or Products that Contain Feathers



Never cut into or otherwise open finished products with feathers inside (such as comforters, crafts, and pillows) from Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Czech Republic¹, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Autonomous Territories, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Sudan, Sweden¹, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, or Vietnam. You risk contracting exotic strains of avian influenza. (Country listing will be updated as country status changes.)

- 1 Regionalized country. **Only** VS-defined areas are considered to be affected with HPAI (H5N1). The areas in regionalized countries **NOT** listed in the VS-restricted zone are considered free from HPAI (H5N1). The VS defined areas follow: Czech Republic (regions (kraj) of Kralovehradecky and Pardubicky **ONLY**), Sweden (Kalmar county **ONLY**). Contact your local PPO-VRS-AQI Veterinarian or a PPO-VRS-HQ Staff Veterinarian for current information on VS-defined areas for regionalized countries.

Continue to **Table 3-7-13**.

TABLE 3-7-13 Feathers Only or Products that Contain Feathers

If:	And the country or region of export is:	And the feathers are:	And:	And the importation:	Then:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Feathers only ◆ Products that contain feathers (such as coats, comforters, crafts and pillows) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) only ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) in combination with END 	In bulk or part of items needing further processing	→	Is accompanied by a VS permit ¹	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS permit ¹	REFUSE ENTRY
		As fully-finished ² items, including coats, comforters, crafts, and pillows	Visible feathers are clean and dry, and free from blood, skin, and manure	→	RELEASE
			Visible feathers are contaminated with blood, skin, or manure	→	REFUSE ENTRY

TABLE 3-7-13 Feathers Only or Products that Contain Feathers (continued)

If:	And the country or region of export is:	And the feathers are:	And:	And the importation:	Then:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Feathers only ◆ Products that contain feathers (such as coats, comforters, crafts and pillows) 	Affected with END only	In bulk or part of items needing further processing	Is consigned to an approved establishment	→	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
			Is not consigned to an approved establishment	→	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)
		As fully-finished ² items, including coats, comforters, crafts, and pillows	Visible feathers are clean and dry, and free from blood, skin, and manure	→	RELEASE
			Visible feathers are contaminated with blood, skin, or manure	→	REFUSE ENTRY
	Free from both HPAI (H5N1) and END	In bulk or part of items needing further processing ¹	Is accompanied by a certificate of origin	→	RELEASE
			Lacks a certificate of origin	→	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11)
		As fully-finished ² items, including coats, comforters, crafts, and pillows	→	RELEASE	

- 1 Bulk feathers or feathers needing further processing from an HPAI (H5N1) affected country, that were legally-imported into another country and then re-exported as bulk feathers or feathers needing further processing to the United States requires a VS permit.
- 2 Fully-finished is defined as needing **no** further processing and ready for sale to the consumer.

Wool, Hair, and Bristles

TABLE 3-7-14 Regulatory Action on Wool, Hair, and Bristles

If the importation is:	And the source of the wool, hair, or bristles is:	And when inspected, the articles are:	And the country or region of export is:	And the articles:	Then:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Wool¹ ◆ Hair ◆ Bristles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ruminant (alpaca, bison, camel, cow, deer, goat, sheep, vicuna, or yak for example) ◆ Swine (boar, peccary, or pig for example) 	Free from blood stains	Free from FMD	→	RELEASE	
			Affected with FMD	Have been scoured, thoroughly washed, or dyed		
					Have not been scoured, washed, or dyed	GO to Table 3-7-15
		Bloodstained		Are consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)	
			→	Are not consigned to an approved establishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. PROVIDE the importer with the appropriate options (see Table 2-2-11) 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Neither ruminant nor swine (badger, beaver, cat, dog, fox, hare, rabbit, sable, seal, squirrel, or weasel for example) 	→			RELEASE

1 Wool comes **only** from ruminants such as alpaca, goat, or sheep.

Ruminant or Swine Wool, Hair, or Bristles Free from Blood Stains, but Not Washed, Scoured, or Dyed, and from a Region of Origin Known to Be Affected with FMD

To determine the action to take on wool, hair, or bristles that are free from blood stains, but have **not** been washed, scoured, or dyed, and from a country or region of origin that is known to be affected with FMD, see [Table 3-7-15](#).

TABLE 3-7-15 Wool, Hair, or Bristles Free from Blood Stains, but Not Washed, Scoured, or Dyed and from a Region of Origin Affected with FMD



If the importation is:	And is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the articles are:	Then:
Wool from ruminant ¹	Free from bloodstains, but has not been washed, scoured, or dyed	Affected with FMD	Free from contamination by manure or dunglocks, but may show grease tags	RELEASE
			Contaminated with manure or dunglocks	GO to Table 3-7-16
Hair or bristles from ruminant or swine	Free from bloodstains, but has not been washed, scoured, or dyed	Affected with FMD	Free from contamination by manure	RELEASE
			Contaminated with manure	GO to Table 3-7-17

1 Wool comes **only** from ruminants such as alpaca, goats, and sheep.

Wool Contaminated With Manure or Dung Locks

To determine the action to take on wool that is both lightly (less than 20%) or heavily (20% or more) contaminated with manure or dung locks and from a country or region affected with FMD, see [Table 3-7-16](#).

TABLE 3-7-16 Wool Contaminated with Manure or Dung Locks and from a Country or Region of Origin Affected with FMD

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And:	And is:	Then:
Wool ¹ that is lightly (less than 20%) contaminated with manure or dung locks	Affected with FMD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Is accompanied by a certificate² from the agency responsible for animal health in the exporting region 		RELEASE
		OR		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Is accompanied by a declaration from the exporter that verifies the wool is sheep body wool, farm or full skirted 		
		Lacks the certification or declaration described in the cell above	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
			Not consigned to an approved establishment	REFUSE ENTRY
Wool that is heavily (20% or more) contaminated with manure or dung locks	Affected with FMD		Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
			Not consigned to an approved establishment	REFUSE ENTRY

1 Wool **only** comes from ruminants alpaca, goats, and sheep.

2 A certificate bearing the seal of the proper department of the national government and signed by an official veterinary inspector, showing that the therein described wool was taken from animals slaughtered under national government inspection, in a region and in an abattoir, in which is maintained an inspection service determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be adequate to assure that such materials have been removed from animals, found at time of slaughter to be free from anthrax, foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest.

Ruminant or Swine Hair or Bristles Contaminated with Manure

To determine the action to take on ruminant or swine hair or bristles that are both lightly (less than 20%) or heavily (20% or more) contaminated with manure and from a country or region of origin affected with FMD, see [Table 3-7-17](#).

TABLE 3-7-17 Ruminant or Swine Hair or Bristles Contaminated with Manure and from a Country or Region of Origin Affected with FMD

If the importation is:	And the country or region of export is:	And:	And is:	Then:
Ruminant or swine hair or bristles that are lightly (less than 20%) contaminated with manure	Affected with FMD	Is accompanied by a certificate ¹ from the agency responsible for animal health in the exporting region	→	RELEASE
		Lacks the certification or declaration described in the cell above	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
			Not consigned to an approved establishment	REFUSE ENTRY
Ruminant or swine hair or bristles that are heavily (20% or more) contaminated with manure	Affected with FMD	→	Consigned to an approved establishment	AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete form)
		Not consigned to an approved establishment	REFUSE ENTRY	

¹ A certificate bearing the seal of the proper department of the national government and signed by an official veterinary inspector, showing that the therein described hair or bristles were taken from animals slaughtered under national government inspection, in a region and in an abattoir, in which is maintained an inspection service determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be adequate to assure that such materials have been removed from animals, found at time of slaughter to be free from anthrax, foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest.

Reference: Hides and Related By-Products
Wool, Hair, and Bristles
