

Export Requirements for Live Sheep and Germplasm from the United States

Task: Conduct a review of the requirements to export live sheep and germplasm from the United States to countries around the world. The review should include a summary of these requirements and an assessment of countries which are currently not open but which may provide an opportunity for future markets.

Materials Utilized:

- Data base maintained by USDA, APHIS, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health on regulations for the export of live sheep and germplasm from the US
- The IREG database maintained by the National Center for Import and Export (NCIE), USDA, APHIS.
- Interviews with current staff members of NCIE
- Requirements posted by foreign countries

Methodology:

Country requirements were reviewed. If a protocol was listed, attempts were made to determine if the protocol was still current. Protocols were then evaluated to determine if the certifications could still be made. If there were no negotiated protocols between the United States, attempts were made to determine if there was a disease issue preventing exportation or it was simply a matter of no inquiries being made.

After reviewing the available materials and speaking to the staff at NCIE, assessments were made regarding the possibility of opening a new market. The ability to export to a country was assessed as follows:

- **Likely** (highlighted in green) – current protocol in place with no apparent disease risk which may void the negotiated agreement.
- **Possibility of opening new market** (highlighted in yellow) – these countries have no apparent insurmountable prohibitions and may have approved protocols for live animals and/or germplasm requirements for other ruminant such as goats or cattle.
- **Not likely at this time** (Prohibition on importations -highlighted in red) – the importing country has a specific ban in place. A determination was made that testing or other certifications statements would likely not be sufficient to satisfy the country's concerns.
- **Unknown** (highlighted in purple) – No protocols or prohibitions listed. In the majority of cases the countries have not been approached about allowing the importation of live sheep and germplasm.

Findings: Countries are listed by regions of the world in the attached tables. It appears that there is potential for opening new markets in some of the countries in Central America and the Caribbean, the Mid East and Eastern Europe/Western Asia.