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Voluntary Public

Date: 8/17/2012

GAIN Report Number: CA12035

Canada

Post: Ottawa

This Week in Canadian Agriculture – Issue 18

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

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Report Highlights:

Amending the Health of Animals Regulations for the Importation of Milk and Milk Products*Amending the Health of Animals Regulations for the Importation of Manure and Fertilizer Containing Manure*Canada Bans Imports of Horses from the State of Colorado*Canada Launches Global Commerce Strategy Consultations* Canadian Lobstermen Upset by Low-Priced U.S. Imports

This Week in Canadian Agriculture is a review of Canadian agricultural industry developments of interest to the U.S. agricultural community. The issues summarized in this report cover a wide range of subject matter obtained from Canadian press reports, government press releases, and host country agricultural officials and representatives.

Disclaimer: Any press article summaries in this report are included to bring U.S. readership closer to the pulse of Canadian developments in agriculture. In no way do the views and opinions of these sources reflect USDA's, the U.S. Embassy's, or any other U.S. Government agency's point of view or official policy.

General Information: Amending the Health of Animals Regulations for the Importation of Milk and Milk Products: The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) launched consultations on updating the regulations for importing milk and milk products. According to the government press release, in recent years there has been an increase in international trade in milk and milk products, including products from non-traditional species such as camels and horses. These changing trade patterns increase the risk of foreign animal diseases entering Canada.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is considering amendments to the [Health of Animals Regulations](#) that would continue to allow trade in imported milk and milk products while protecting animal and human health from new and re-emerging diseases.

For more information, please read [the background document](#).

The deadline for comments is October 20, 2012.

For more information, please check the following URL:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/imports/consultation-milk-and-manure/milk-and-milk-products/eng/1342746561742/1342746701959>

Amending the Health of Animals Regulations for the Importation of Manure and Fertilizer Containing Manure: The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has requested feedback on updating regulations for importing manure and manure-based fertilizers.

In recent years there has been an increase in the international trade in manure and fertilizer containing manure from exotic and non-traditional species such as horses and bats. These changing trade patterns increase the risk that foreign animal diseases could enter Canada. The Agency is considering amendments to the [Health of Animals Regulations](#) that would continue to allow trade in imported manure and manure-based fertilizers, while protecting animal and human health from new and re-emerging animal diseases.

For more information, please [read the background document](#).

The deadline for comments is October 20, 2012.

For more information, please check the following URL:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/imports/consultation-milk-and-manure/manure-and-manure-based-fertilizers/eng/1342747902749/1342748014074>

Canada Bans Imports of Horses from the State of Colorado: The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is implementing new import measures to protect Canadian livestock from an outbreak of vesicular stomatitis reported in the State of Colorado (United States). These are in addition to the measures that were put in place in [May 2012](#) as a result of an outbreak of vesicular stomatitis in New Mexico. Effective immediately, horses originating from the State of Colorado will not be permitted to enter Canada. Canadian horses returning from Colorado will be allowed entry into Canada if additional import requirements are met. In addition, all horses entering Canada from the United States must be accompanied by official U.S. documents certifying that they have not been in Colorado within the previous 21 days. Details on these import measures can be found in the [Automated Import Reference System \(AIRS\)](#). Canada is currently free of vesicular stomatitis. It was last diagnosed in Canada in 1949.

Canada Launches Global Commerce Strategy Consultations: As part of the Economic Action Plan 2012, the Government of Canada made a commitment to refresh its Global Commerce Strategy (GCS). The government is undertaking a series of cross-country consultations with industry and business leaders—including those from small-and medium-sized enterprises. The Canadian government notes that a refreshed GCS will align Canada's trade and investment objectives in large, dynamic and fast-growing priority markets, with an eye to ensuring that Canada is branded to its greatest advantage in those markets. The [GCS](#) was launched in 2007 and has been central to the government's pro-trade plan. In May 2012, the government announced the formation of a [ten-member](#) advisory panel to help guide Canada's pro-trade plan and act as a sounding board for a refreshed GCS. The next phase of the GCS is to be announced in 2013.

For more information, please check the following URL: http://www.international.gc.ca/commerce/visit-visite/gcs-consultations-scm_2012.aspx?lang=eng&view=d

Canadian Lobstermen Upset by Low-priced U.S. Imports: Several news articles have recently reported on what they call “the lobster war” between Maine and New Brunswick. According to these sources, this year's lobster harvest in Maine has been unusually large as a consequence of an unseasonably warm winter, and supply has now outstripped demand. As a consequence, prices have dropped as low as \$1.25 a pound in some areas, nearly a 30-year low. The slump in lobster prices is reportedly having an effect on lobstermen on both sides of the border. The press has reported incidents of Canadian lobsterman picketing processing plants and restricting access of U.S. delivery vehicles. On August 9, a New Brunswick judge issued a 10-day injunction preventing fishermen from blockading the plants.

Exchange Rate: Noon rate, August 17, 2012 (Bank of Canada): U.S. Dollar
= C\$ 0.9885.

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