



Regulatory News Alerts & Updates

Regulatory Alert: Canada – Import Restrictions on Butter and Ghee

July 31, 2025

On July 23, 2025, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) released a reminder that under the Health of Animals Regulations (HAR), the import of certain dairy products from countries with animal disease risks are restricted to protect Canadian agriculture.

Moreover, the CFIA specifically advised that the importation of ghee and butter oil (anhydrous milk fat) into Canada is not allowed from certain countries because of the following:

1. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) present in these countries poses a serious risk to Canadian livestock.
2. Canada has not completed evaluations of these countries' veterinary systems, so their export certificates are not accepted.
3. Limited scientific evidence exists on effective FMD inactivation treatments for ghee and butter oil.

Importers and exporters should review the CFIA's [Automated Import Reference System \(AIRS\)](#) to confirm current import requirements before shipping butter oil or ghee to Canada. Products that do not meet these requirements risk being refused entry and returned to the sender.

Compliance reminder: Using the wrong product names and/or HS codes to bypass import restrictions or selling products that are non-compliant with Canadian import requirements can result in enforcement action by the Government of Canada, including fines.

Helpful links

CFIA's Automated Import Reference System (AIRS):

[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://inspection.canada.ca/en/importing-food-plants-animals/airs_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjdOw4zW68\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://inspection.canada.ca/en/importing-food-plants-animals/airs_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjdOw4zW68$)

Notice to Industry - Canadian import restrictions on butter oil and ghee:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/imports/import-policies/products-and-products/restrictions-butter-oil-and-ghee_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!hYBkA_0\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/imports/import-policies/products-and-products/restrictions-butter-oil-and-ghee_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!hYBkA_0$)

Foot and Mouth Disease – Countries officially recognized by Canada as free of the disease:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/foot-and-mouth-disease/countries-free-disease_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!Ey8c_8\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/foot-and-mouth-disease/countries-free-disease_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!Ey8c_8$)

Countries evaluated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for export of animal products and by-products to Canada:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/imports/import-policies/animal-products-and-products/evaluated-countries-export-animal-products-canada_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!3UTC9IE\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://inspection.canada.ca/en/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/imports/import-policies/animal-products-and-products/evaluated-countries-export-animal-products-canada_!!BL9GA0TyTA!Z7HvfQhiljXcvB-x_xcX-CwDdjyedKC5m2x01HjucF14Bz_amLPk7yDQAmUYsZdCleT7R1xsp06qgfilkNitQE3vngwlujjd!3UTC9IE$)