

Dear Industry Leaders,

We are writing to inform you that the transition period from the old March 2010 to the new July 2022 version of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services VS Form 16-4 (Export Certificate for Animal Products) is approaching its end date. APHIS VS has been endorsing both the MAR 2010 and JUL 2022 versions of the VS Form 16-4 during this two-month transition period (April 5 to June 4) but **will only endorse the new JUL 2022 version after June 4, 2023.**

Fillable versions of the new JUL 2022 versions of the new VS Form 16-4 and its updated continuation page, the VS Form 16-4A, are available on the main IRegs export products page (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/export/iregs-for-animal-product-exports/ct_iregs_animal_product_exports_home) from selecting "VS Export Certificates and Instructions":

[VS Form 16-4](#) (pdf 130kb)*

[VS Form 16-4A](#) (pdf 99kb)

[Combined VS form 16-4 and VS form 16-4A](#) - (pdf 192kb)*

Please advise your members to utilize **only the new JUL 2022 versions** of the VS Form 16-4 and VS Form 16-4A moving forward.

The posted versions in the links above currently have the "*This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, classical swine fever, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America*" text inserted as the first sentence in the "ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS" area. Please inform your members that the disease statement in the previous sentence **SHOULD BE INCLUDED AND NOT DELETED from the ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS section unless the relevant commodity specific IREG page indicates that it should be removed** (or that an alternative statement should be utilized).

The updated form and transition period will have no effect on exports where the VS Form 16-4 is not utilized, such as to the European Union, and other countries which require other types of certificates.

If your members have any questions, they should reach out to their local Veterinary Export Trade Services Center at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/contact-us/endorsement-offices-exports/endorsement-offices-animal-exportswho>.

The original announcement email for the introduction of the new 16-4 is included below for your reference.



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