

Minutes of the meeting on the export of frozen fruit to China

Meeting with: **Mr WANG Yiyu**, Division Director, Division of Plant Quarantine,
Department of Supervision on Quarantine of Animals and Plants

Date: 25 February 2014

Venue: Room 316, AQSIQ

WANG explained, with the rapid increase of import and export of frozen fruits in recent 3 years, AQSIQ issued a *List of types of frozen fruits and countries/regions who get the access of supervision and quarantine* (updated on 2 December 2013) (Link: http://dzwjyjgs.aqsiq.gov.cn/rdgz/201312/t20131203_389413.htm) to better regulate and supervise the import of frozen fruits.

Type of frozen fruits	Export country/region
Frozen strawberry	USA, Mexico, Argentina, Peru, Chile, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, France, Poland
Frozen currant (穗醋栗)	New Zealand, France, Poland
Frozen black berry	Chile, Mexico
Frozen mulberry	France, UK
Frozen raspberry	Serbia, Mexico
Frozen durian	Malaysia, Thailand
Frozen lemon	Vietnam
Frozen fig (无花果)	France
Frozen cherry	Poland, USA
Frozen blue berry	Estonia, Belarus, Latvia, Russia, France, Lithuania, Ukraine, Sweden, Finland, USA, Canada, Chile, Argentina
Frozen bilberry (越橘)	Estonia, Belarus, Russia, France, Finland, Latvia, Sweden, Ukraine, Romania
Frozen cranberry	USA, Canada
Frozen banana	Ecuador

The list was drawn based on the analysis on the historical data of import of frozen fruits from foreign countries in recent 3 years. WANG claimed that major export country/region with trade history on frozen fruits are almost included.

For the frozen fruits or country/region which are not included in the list, export is prohibited from 1 January 2014. But AQSIQ leaves some ambiguity for granting transition period around 2-3 months. For example, if the exporter or importer is not aware of the LIST or if the commodity was already being shipped before 2 December 2013 when the LIST was issued, once the commodity (not with big volume) arrives in the port, the local CIQ and customs might get it released if

there's no risk data in history.

For the frozen fruits or country/region which are not included in the list, to start export or to continue to export (if the trade ceased in recent 3 years), technical documentation needs to be submitted to AQSIQ for risk assessment. The technical documentation needs to cover 3 aspects :

- Precise type of the frozen fruit intended to export to China
- List of establishments of planting and processing, and proof of such establishments respect Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).
- List of supervision authorities or institutions for the compliance of such establishments

WANG claimed that the **LIST** is not a new restrictive measure, actually it is a notice to instruct better regulate the import of frozen fruits based on the *AQSIQ Decree No. 41 [2002] Administrative regulation on risk analysis on imported plants and plant products*, which was notified to WTO.

http://www.xzciq.gov.cn/ywdh/dzwjyzy/zwjy/201311/t20131119_387688.htm

After Decree No. 41 entered into force on 1 February 2003, AQSIQ have been regulated the import of fresh fruits gradually. Now AQSIQ sees the necessity to also better regulate the import of fresh fruits as the import of frozen fruits increased rapidly in recent 2-3 years.

WANG also informed that China has also intensified supervision on the export of frozen fruits to foreign counties after the German strawberries incident in 2012. Establishments of planting and processing frozen fruits have to be registered with AQSIQ.

WANG acknowledged the letter sent by Latvian embassy has been received successfully. WANG nominated two contact persons for following this issue:

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