



**STATE OF ISRAEL**  
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Veterinary Services and Animal Health, P.O.B 12, Beit –Dagan, 50250

Bet Dagan Israel, august 17 2015.

████████████████████ Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer DVM.

**General Veterinary Inspectoriate**

30 Wspolna Str. 00-930 Warsaw

**Inspection & Control of slaughterhouses by the Polish Veterinary Services**

**Israeli IVSAH Mission to Poland Report: final meeting items.**

**Background & Objectives:**

Following the request of the Polish Veterinary Services and the coordination meeting with Israel CVO which was held in Israel during June 16 to 18/2015 – A second mission to Poland was carried out in order to evaluate:

- The application of the Israeli food safety requirements in slaughterhouses intended for export to Israel.
- The implementation and correction of the "corrective actions" which were specified after the previous audit.
- The assessment of the possibility to implement the approval of Poland slaughterhouses by a prelisting system.
- The feasibility of export of live animals (calves), to Israel.

**Program:**

- Auditing 3 slaughterhouses, 2 new establishments and one plant which is already exporting meat to Israel
- Visiting one PIB station at Warsaw national airport
- Visiting one dairy farm

**Findings:**

- In all three establishments good infrastructure and maintenance were identified. In one of the establishments the team members expressed the need to better and quicker response to correct maintenance issues identified by QA personnel.
- In all three establishments good operation measures were identified and implemented.



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- The three establishments were found to be in different stages of the implementation of several key-points of food safety programs \*(HACCP-SSOP-SPS-GMP). However, one establishment was found to be lacking a proper implementation of these key-points and issues, by both the QA of the establishment and the DVO inspection team.
- The food safety training programs were found to be well organized and performed in a satisfactory manner.
- Traceability of products was found to be efficient and well performed.
- The control of the Polish veterinary services (CCA, GVO & DVO), of infectious diseases, registration and movements of animals was found to be performed in an adequate manner which permits a rapid professional intervention in case of disease outbreaks.
- Findings, non-compliances or technical comments written during our visits on individual establishments, were included in our web program: <http://www.foodinspection.co.il/>

### **Main non conformities identified:**

#### **SPS:**

- i. Pest control programs should be re-evaluated in order to make emphasis of the elimination of flies and mosquitoes indoors, especially in the sensitive areas of production.
- ii. Faster and more efficient response of managements to corrective actions concerning infrastructure deficiencies was identified.
- iii. Signposting must be improved and better identification of the personnel working in the production and slaughter areas must be implemented in all establishments.

#### **SSOP:**

- i. It must be well clarified what is the meaning and purpose of SSOP program. The difference between the different areas, especially ones which are in direct contact with exposed product must be well implemented. Establishments should improve monitoring, verification, follow up and closure of corrective actions.

#### **Pathogen reduction programs (E. coli, Salmonella):**

- i. In two establishments was identified that the implementation of both salmonella and E. coli sampling programs, is done without first producing a solid data base on which they will lean when creating genuine risk assessment protocols.



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Current protocols should be based upon an existing database in order to be sufficient for their proper implementation.

The establishments must re-evaluate and improve the risk assessment of the pathogen reduction procedures, frequency of sampling, monitoring, verification and closure of corrective actions.

### HACCP

- i. HACCP programs and procedures satisfactory as well as their implementation in the establishments.
- ii. However, one important deficiency in processing was identified by the team members: the evisceration of internal organs and ligation of the digestive tract (anus to esophagus), with implications on a zero-tolerance CCP (visible contamination fecal or gastro intestinal).

The process, done in 2 out of 3 of the establishments, involves the severing of the stomach and esophagus at a level which permits the spillage of ingesta and digestive content in a manner which endangers the cleanliness of the carcass.

### Export of live animals

At the current moment no export of live animals is performed. No procedure sheets and/or facilities concerning this issue exist.

### Conclusions

- The central competent authority must deepen and strengthen the knowledge and capabilities of the different levels of food safety officers and inspectors concerning monitoring, verification and the attention to corrective actions and enforcement of regulation and procedures.
- Export of live animals from Poland to Israel via air is not yet possible due to lack of facilities and suitable procedures and declarations. However, the possibility of exporting live animals (calves), via sea ports of a third country can be taken into consideration after coordinating and finalizing of procedures and health certification between the Polish & Israeli veterinary services.
- After conclusion of corrective actions by the establishments and a declaration of guarantee by the Polish CVO which will confirm their implementation, it will be recommended by the audit team members to allow the import of chilled and frozen meat from all three establishments to Israel.



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- The use of pre listing approval system will be discussed and decided by the Polish & Israeli CVO.

Please accept our highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

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Field Veterinary Services, Kannot Regional Chief Officer DVO.

CC.

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