



January 22, 2021

APHIS Core Filing to be Mandatory - Updated

Dear Valued Customer,

Effective January 25, 2021, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will require importers and their customs brokers to electronically submit the data required at time of Customs entry via Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). Data must be submitted electronically for commodities regulated by APHIS Animal Care, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, Plant Protection and Quarantine, and Veterinary Services divisions.

APHIS Core filings will roll out into two phases as outlined in [CSMS #45773761](#).

- Phase 1 – January 25, 2021 – Requires filers to submit message sets for regulated products. During this time, APHIS will continue to maintain “warning” level HTS code flagging
- Phase 2 – March 15, 2021 – APHIS will fully enforce APHIS Core messaging set and will begin rejecting entries that do not include the APHIS Core message set.

Over 2100 HTS numbers have been flagged for potential APHIS Core reporting. Commodities that require a License, Permit, Certificate or Other documents (LPCO) as a condition of importation will be required to submit the APHIS Core data at time of entry.

Other commodities that are flagged may be disclaimed, depending on whether the product contains animal or plant origin material or if they are regulated by APHIS but do not require reporting. USDA may require additional information from the importer at time of entry to validate whether the goods may be released.

To see if your commodity's Harmonized Tariff Number is flagged for APHIS Core ([link here](#))

- AQ1 – APHIS data may be required
- AQ2 – APHIS data is mandatory

Additional APHIS Core resources can be found below. Additionally, there is an APHIS Customer Service Center that can assist importers in determining whether their specific commodity may require reporting.

- APHIS Customer Service Center: 1-844-820-2234 or <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/banner/contactus>
- [APHIS Import Export Website](#)
- [APHIS Import Export Website Importer Resources](#)

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your C.H. Robinson commercial representative for further information.

Sincerely,
C.H. Robinson