

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/101

25 November 1997

(97-5172)

## Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

### NOTIFICATION

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>UNITED STATES</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
3.	<b>Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Animal disease status of certain countries
4.	<b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Changes in Disease Status of Belgium, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal, and Spain (available in English, 6 pages)
5.	<b>Description of content:</b> The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to declare Luxembourg and Portugal free of rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease; Greece free of rinderpest; France, Greece, Luxembourg, and Spain free of exotic Newcastle disease; Portugal free of African swine fever; and Belgium, Greece, and Portugal free of swine vesicular disease. These proposed actions are based on a request from the European Commission's Directorate General for Agriculture and on our review of the supporting documentation supplied with that request. These proposed actions would relieve some restrictions on the importation into the United States of certain animals and animal products from those countries. However, because of the status of those countries with respect to other diseases, and because of other factors that could result in a risk of introducing animal diseases into the United States, the importation into the United States of animals and animal products from those countries would continue to be subject to certain restrictions.
6.	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> Animal health
7.	<b>An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [ X ].</b> <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:</b>
8.	<b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> 62 FR 61036, 14 November 1997; 9 CFR Part 94

<b>9.</b>	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> To be determined.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> The effective date will be given upon publication of the Final Rule in the Federal Register.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Final date for comments:</b> 13 January 1998  <b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA
<b>12.</b>	<b>Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b>  United States SPS Enquiry Point: USDA/FAS/FSTSD Attn: Carolyn F. Wilson Room 5545 South Agriculture Building Stop 1027 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250 Tel: (202) 720 22 39 Fax: (202) 690 06 77 E-mail: wilsonc@fas.usda.gov