



## **MARKET ACCESS ADVICE**

Reference Number: MAA1604  
Date of Issue: 14 November 2016  
Date of Effect: Immediately

### **Kuwait: Possible early application of GCC Imported Food Guide Certification.**

<b>Attention</b>	<b>Industries</b>	Export Establishments Industry bodies – DA, AECL, AFGC, ARA, AHBIC Licensed exporters
	<b>Department of Agriculture of Water Resources</b>	Central and regional offices
<b>Other</b>		State regulatory authorities
<b>Affected Markets</b>		<b>Kuwait</b>
<b>Further information</b>		Please contact <a href="mailto:exports@agriculture.gov.au">exports@agriculture.gov.au</a> if you have any queries.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has recently received official verbal advice that Kuwait may seek to implement the certificates from the GCC Imported Food Guide (the Guide) in advance of the published implementation date of 1 January 2017. Advice from Kuwait is that they will be seeking certificates in alignment with the Guide for all product arriving from 15 December 2016. Products arriving from this date that do not have the correct certification may be at risk of rejection.

Commodities included in the Guide include the following products for human consumption: meat and meat products, milk and milk products, seafood, table eggs and egg products, processed foods, assorted food products and honey and bee products.

The department has been working towards new certificates for negotiation under the Guide. These certificates have been drafted to closely reflect what is already agreed with GCC member countries, including Kuwait. The department is engaging directly with Kuwait and the GCC Secretariat (the owner of the Guide), to seek an extension to the implementation timelines to ensure trade is not disrupted while certificate negotiations are ongoing.

The department seeks advice from industry on any exported product certified by the department currently in transit, which will arrive in Kuwait from 15 December 2016. Please provide information on the consignment including export certificate and the estimated time of arrival directly to the department via email to [exports@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:exports@agriculture.gov.au)

The department will provide an update to this Market Access Advice as soon as further information is available. The department is not aware of any other GCC countries imposing changes to their health certification requirements at this stage.

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