



**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Veterinary Services

National Center for  
Import and Export

4700 River Road  
Unit 40  
Riverdale, MD 20737

November 09, 2001

**Subject:** Possible Delays in correspondence and Permit Requests

**To:** Importers, Brokers, and Other Interested Parties

I am writing to inform you that there may be delays in correspondence response from the National Center for Import and Export (NCIE). Likewise, the processing of permit requests may also be delayed. These possible delays are due to increased security measures in United States Department of Agriculture mail processing procedures. Please be assured, however, that NCIE staff will continue to work diligently to ensure that all correspondence and permit issues are handled as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions regarding these possible delays, please do not hesitate to contact NCIE at (301)734-3277.

Sincerely,

Karen A. James-Preston, DVM  
Assistant Director  
Technical Trade Services  
National Center for Import and Export



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