

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Number: TU2025-0005

Report Name: FAS-Turkiye Rescues Nearly USD 40 Million in Detained US Ag Shipments

Country: Turkiye

Post: Ankara

Report Category: Detained Shipments

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Report Highlights:

From 2023-2024, the FAS-Turkiye office, with the assistance of U.S. regulatory agencies, successfully cleared about \$40 million U.S. agricultural products that had been detained at Turkish borders. Post's interventions preserved our exports, reduced costly trade disruptions, and encouraged continued bilateral trade.

FAS-Turkiye’s Interventions Help Save Almost \$40 Million in Detained U.S. Ag Shipments

One of the many ways FAS overseas offices support American agricultural exports is by helping U.S. companies get their shipments released if foreign inspectors detain them at the border. From 2023-2024, FAS-Turkiye – with the help of U.S. regulatory agencies like APHIS – helped clear 14 detained shipments comprised of a wide range of U.S. agricultural products, valued at almost \$40 million, based on industry information and Post estimates (see table 1). For reference, U.S. agricultural exports to Turkiye totaled \$1.6 billion in 2024 (Jan-Nov), according to official U.S. trade numbers.

Additionally, while not captured in these statistics, FAS-Turkiye also helped clear multiple shipments of U.S. and third-country origin food items that were destined to U.S. military installations in Turkiye covered by NATO agreements.

Table 1: Cleared/Assisted Shipments from 2023-2024		
Product	Estimated Value	Origin State(s)
Breeder cattle	\$28 million	PA, TX
Dairy products	\$260,000	ID, NJ
Pet food	\$60,000	GA
Poultry meat	\$30,000	GA
Wet salted hides	\$35,000	Various
DDGS	\$11 million	LA
Alcoholic beverages	\$102,000	CA, TX, NY
Food supplements	\$12,000	AZ
Total	\$39.5 million	

Detained shipments were stopped by Turkish authorities at the port-of-entry for several reasons:

- U.S. inspectors endorsed the certificates after the cargo had departed the United States
- Restrictions due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
- Presenting the cargo for inspection at a different port-of-entry
- Issues with information in the health certificate and missing certificates

Most shipments were eventually cleared with the help of Post, while a small number were rejected because the export documentation or product was not compliant with Turkish regulations.

When notified of a stuck shipment, FAS-Turkiye liaises with the host government, exporter, importer, and U.S. regulatory agencies responsible for food safety or plant and animal health to quickly address the situation. Swiftly resolving these detentions helps avoid costly rejections, payment delays, added logistical costs (e.g. demurrage fees), spoilage, or other damage. Additionally, the swift resolution of these detained cargoes helps give affected U.S. companies the needed confidence to continue doing business with their Turkish customers.

As Turkiye has become a [major hub for transshipments](#), some detained cargoes at Turkish borders are destined to third markets in the region. For example, U.S. poultry products might enter Turkiye’s

Mediterranean seaport in the southeastern part of the country, after which they are dispatched onward to their final destination in Iraq or even as far away as Central Asia. For the latest information on transiting of poultry products through Turkiye, please refer to [GAIN TU2024-0002 Transit Regulations Summary for HPAI-Restricted Poultry](#).

Attachments:

No Attachments.