

11-24-23-Borrer-China-Plant-Approvals

SPEAKERS

John Herath, Erin Borrer

John Herath 00:00

U.S. beef and pork exports to China received a boost recently with new plant approvals that were a long time coming. Erin Borrer, U.S. Meat Export Federation vice president for economic analysis has more details.

Erin Borrer 00:10

The Phase One Agreement has many benefits for U.S. agriculture, but particularly related to plant approvals. Since the 2020 implementation of the Phase One Agreement China has further rolled out plant and establishment registration processes that are fairly complex. And fortunately for U.S. beef and pork, Phase One takes precedence. USDA Food Safety Inspection Service plant approvals are still what is recognized by China. And up until about December of last year, that process was working and in place and then this year, in 2023, we hadn't seen any plant list updates. The good news is China did update the establishment list, and that update included 12 pork establishments and 18 beef establishments, and it was a big sigh of relief that China was still recognizing the Phase One Agreement and updating the list as put forward by FSIS and we still expect to see further updates - hopefully still yet before the end of 2023.

John Herath 01:18

While the China market is not as red hot as in years past, Borrer explains it's still a critical destination for the U.S. pork and beef industries.

Erin Borrer 01:26

There is plenty of pork in the China market and that's kind of weighing overall. But we still see China helping to support a record year for U.S. pork variety meat exports. Our pork variety meat shipments to China this year are up 9% from last year. Shipments to China of beef so far this year are down 23%, but that still puts them as number four after Korea, Japan and Mexico - so a huge destination for U.S. beef and again one that can turn quickly.

John Herath 01:55

For more please visit [USMEF.org](https://usmef.org). For the U.S. Meat Export Federation, I'm John Herath.