

Trevino-Mexico-Offal-V2

SPEAKERS

John Herath, Rigoberto Treviño

John Herath 00:00

Following a recent pseudorabies finding, Mexico closed its border to U.S. pork offal for more than a month, costing the U.S. industry about \$7 million per week in exports. Although some offal shipments to Mexico have now resumed, those restrictions continue to frustrate exporters. Rigoberto Treviño, the U.S. Meat Export Federation's Mexico trade manager, explains how customers in Mexico are also being negatively impacted.

Rigoberto Treviño 00:24

Pork offals and variety meats are very important in the Mexican market. Most of the time, when you talk about variety meats, the answer is going to be always tacos. So, carnitas are very important in Mexico, for example pork snout, pork ear, pork stomach, etc.

John Herath 00:41

A lack of alternative sources for those offal products is driving up prices for retailers and restaurants.

Rigoberto Treviño 00:47

They are very frustrated. Not only the Mexican customers, also the American exporters, because they want to get the product into Mexico, and the prices are getting really high. And, for example, just giving an example, pork uterus. The domestic supply is not enough in Mexico, so they have to import product from the U.S. They cannot import product from the U.S. right now, so the prices can be double for these kind of cuts.

John Herath 01:12

USMEF has been working to build demand for pork variety meats in Mexico, because of the affordability and because it builds value for the pork carcass,

Rigoberto Treviño 01:23

USMEF have been building a demand for this kind of product with different initiatives like Cantina Vibes and chef's training, so the customers really want to try the product. The prices are getting higher in the market for pork offals, and the real big problem is that you can open the door to different suppliers.

John Herath 01:41

The Mexican restrictions do not impact U.S. pork muscle cuts. The World Organization for Animal Health has confirmed that the pseudorabies event in Iowa was isolated and has been contained. For more, please visit USMEForg. For the U.S. Meat Export Federation, I'm John Herath.