

Regulatory Perspectives on World Trade

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John Szczepanski is director of the U.S. Forage Export Council (USFEC), a subcommittee of the National Hay Association. USFEC has thirty-four members and represents over \$1.2 billion in forage exports. USFEC is dedicated to forage safety and quality, and the long-term health of the international forage trade.

For exporters of hay and straw, regulatory requirements of export markets present diverse challenges. In principle, regulations are supposed to be science-based and equally applied; in practice, however, exporters often encounter differences of interpretation and enforcement, sometimes within the same country. This presentation draws from experiences in key export destinations – principally Japan and China – providing insights and advice, while encouraging exporters to work together to advocate for a fair and transparent regulatory environment.