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German Meat Ban Possible

By The Moscow Times

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Moscow is unhappy with safety guarantees provided by the German federal veterinary service and may impose restrictions on meat imports, the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Inspection Service said Thursday.

"In the last three years, the quality of the federal veterinary service's work in Germany has significantly deteriorated," said agency head Sergei Dankvert.

Russia imports about 500,000 tons of German meat and meat products per year. During recent inspections, veterinarians from the customs union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan found that more than 60 percent of German meat plants did not meet their standards, he said.

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