



17 October 2013

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 37

Series of 2013

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS INCLUDING DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM THE PROVINCE BRESCIA, LOMBARDY REGION, ITALY

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by the Italian veterinary authorities to the European Commission, Health and Consumers Directorate-General on October 15, 2013, there was an outbreak of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) in the Province of Brescia, Lombardy Region, Italy;

WHEREAS, an outbreak of LPAI of the subtype H5 was confirmed in a holding, keeping around 1330 birds of several poultry species;

WHEREAS, according to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Animal Health Information Department and as per Chapter 10.4 on Avian Influenza of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2012), H5 and H7 Avian Influenza in its low pathogenic form in poultry are notifiable diseases;

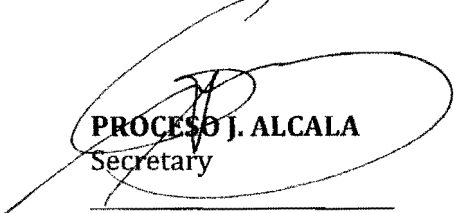
WHEREAS, travellers may bring in birds and its products from the province of Brescia, Lombardy Region, Italy;


WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of LPAI virus to protect the health of the local poultry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures:

1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds, including day old chicks, eggs, and semen from province of Brescia, Lombardy Region, Italy;¹
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC/SPS) to import the above-stated commodities from province of Brescia, Lombardy Region, Italy;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities (with the exception on heat treated products) into the country originating from province of Brescia, Lombardy Region, Italy by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.
4. Importation of meat products of poultry is subject to the conditions provided in article 10.4.19, 10.4.20 and 10.4.26 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, 2012.²

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.


PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In replying pls cite this code
For Signature: S-10-13-0431
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¹ Heat treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2012) recommending, provided that in addition to the Veterinary Health Certificate, the Competent Authority will include in the certification the following:

1. Temperature and the duration of heating or pasteurization of products; and
2. There is no commingling of raw materials with any other materials of animal origin.

² Presentation of International Veterinary Certificate attesting that the entire consignment of fresh meat comes from poultry free from Notifiable Avian Influenza (NAI) since they were hatched for the past 21 days; which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir in a country, zone or compartment free from NAI and have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections in accordance with Chapter 6.2. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and have been found free of any signs suggestive of NAI.

