



9 December 2014

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 97
Series of 2014

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada.

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by Dr Martine Dubuc, OIE Delegate for Canada, Chief Food Safety Officer, Vice-President, Science Branch, Health Ministry, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ottawa, Canada to the Office Internationale Des Epizooties (OIE) on December 3, 2014, that there was an outbreak of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus in Chilliwack and Abbotsford, BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada;

WHEREAS, the outbreak, pertaining to the whole country was believed to have caused by H5 HPAI virus affecting turkey and chicken broiler farms where it was confirmed by the Animal Health Centre, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture (Local laboratory) thru real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR);

WHEREAS, the OIE Animal Health Information Department: H5 and H7 High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza viruses are among the notifiable OIE Listed terrestrial animal diseases, infections and infestations in force in 2014;

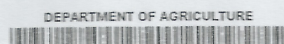
WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of HPAI virus to protect the health of the public and the local poultry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of the Department 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 poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs, and semen from BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada;¹
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above-stated commodities from BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities (with the exception on heat treated products and poultry meat with slaughter/production date before October 31, 2014) into the country originating from BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada 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, 2014.²

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.

PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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¹ Heat treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2014) 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.