

23 April 2015

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 20

Series of 2015

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 ONTARIO, 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 April 8, 2015, that there was an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus in Beachville, ONTARIO, Canada;

WHEREAS, the outbreak which started on April 3, 2015, pertaining to a defined zone within the country was detected to have caused by H5N2 HPAI virus affecting meat turkey commercial farm as confirmed by the University of Guelph - Animal Health Laboratory (Local laboratory) and the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease - CFIA (National Laboratory) thru real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR) and virus sequencing;

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 2015;

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, 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 ONTARIO, 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 ONTARIO, 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 March 13, 2015) into the country originating from ONTARIO, 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
in replying pls cite this code :
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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.