

26 April 2010

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 15

Series of 2010

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM BERGAMO, LOMBARDY ITALY

WHEREAS, based on the report submitted to by Bernard Van Goethem, Director, Animal Health and Welfare, Health and Consumers Directorate-General, European Commission, there were outbreaks of Low pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) in Bergamo, Lombardy Italy;

WHEREAS, low pathogenic avian influenza (serotype H7N3) has been in detected in two holdings, one is a dealer holding keeping 200 heads of pultry and the other is a holding keeping 3000 laying hens in the province of Bergamo, Lombardy region;

WHEREAS, travelers may bring in birds and its products from Bergamo, Lombardy, 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, ATTY. BERNIE G. FONDEVILLA, 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 Bergamo, Lombardy, Italy;
2. immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC) to import the above-stated commodities from Bergamo, Lombardy, Italy;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of poultry and poultry products into the country originating from Italy by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.

This order shall take effect immediately.

ATTY. BERNIE G. FONDEVILLA

Secretary