



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 21

Series of 2023

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF LIVE CATTLE, MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS, BOVINE PROCESSED ANIMAL PROTEINS AND SEMEN DERIVED FROM CATTLE ORIGINATING IN *Spain*

WHEREAS, it shall be the utmost objective of the Government to protect its borders and territories from the entry, establishment and spread of animal diseases that may be introduced by the importation of disease-carrying, contaminated, and/or adulterated meat and/or meat products, which endanger the lives and safety/health of the consuming public and which could pose risk to human and animal health and life and potentially cause serious economic consequences;

WHEREAS, Section 6 and 7 (2) and (4) of Executive Order No. 292 provides the authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department, to establish the policies and standards for the operation of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of government and promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient administration of the offices under the Secretary and the proper execution of the laws relative thereto;

WHEREAS, Section 10 of Republic Act no. 10611, or the "Food Safety Act of 2013", provided that in specific circumstances when the available relevant information for use in risk assessment is insufficient to show that a certain type of food or food product does not pose a risk to consumer health, **precautionary measures shall be adopted;**

WHEREAS, Section 1770 of Act No. 2711 (Revised Administrative Code of 1917) which was adopted by incorporation together with Sections 1761-1769, in Section 5 of Act 3639 (Charter of BAI) empowers the Department Head to issue a general order preventing the entry of animals, animal effects, parts or products from any country with dangerous communicable animal disease;

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by the Chief Veterinary Officer of the Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación, Madrid, Spain to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on January 21, 2023, that there was an outbreak of Atypical Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (H-type) in Pontevedra, Galicia affecting domestic

and meat by-products including bovine processed animal proteins and semen originating from the Spain until the area regains its BSE-free status.

II. WOH Animal Health Code Chapter 11.4

Article 11.4.14. Recommendations on commodities that should not be traded

“From cattle of any age originating from a country, zone or compartment defined in Articles 11.4.4. and 11.4.5., the following commodities, and any commodity contaminated by them, should not be traded for the preparation of food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals including biologicals, or medical devices: tonsils and distal ileum. Protein products, food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals or medical devices prepared using these commodities (unless covered by other articles in this chapter) should also not be traded.

From cattle that were at the time of slaughter over 30 months of age originating from a country, zone or compartment defined in Article 11.4.4., the following commodities, and any commodity contaminated by them, should not be traded for the preparation of food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals including biologicals, or medical devices: brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column. Protein products, food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals or medical devices prepared using these commodities (unless covered by other articles in this chapter) should also not be traded.

From cattle that were at the time of slaughter over 12 months of age originating from a country, zone or compartment defined in Article 11.4.5., the following commodities, and any commodity contaminated by them, should not be traded for the preparation of food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals including biologicals, or medical devices: brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column. Protein products, food, feed, fertilisers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals or medical devices prepared using these commodities (unless covered by other articles in this chapter) should also not be traded.”

III. Country Accreditation and Trade Volume

In terms of market access, Spain has system accreditation to import beef to the Philippines, however it only contributes to 0.54% of the overall beef imports from 2018-2022, hence, this temporary ban may have no significant impact on the overall supply of beef in the country.

IV. Other Country Sources of Commodities to be Banned

Beef	Live Animals (Bovine)	Bovine Semen
Argentina	Australia	Australia
Australia	Belgium*	Canada
Austria	Canada*	New Zealand
Belgium	Denmark*	United States of America
Brazil	France*	
Canada	Germany*	
Denmark	Ireland*	
France	Japan*	
Germany	New Zealand	
Ireland	Spain*	
Japan	United Kingdom*	
New Zealand	United States of America	
Spain		
United Kingdom		
United States of America		

*Accredited to import cattle, but no recorded arrivals as of date

V. Conditions for Lifting the Issuance

The temporary suspension issuance will be imposed pending the submission of satisfactory evidence of the following documents:

1. Surveillance data 2016-2023
2. Circumstances surrounding the detection of the atypical BSE case detections.
3. Relationship of the atypical BSE cases reported previously with the detection of the same disease in 2023.

For your information, consideration, and instruction.

cattle as confirmed by the Laboratorio Central de Veterinaria de Algete (National laboratory);

WHEREAS, the recent cases of BSE or commonly known as Mad Cow Disease in Spain as reported to the WOAHP may pose a risk to consumers due to BSE's assumed link with the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) in humans;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Order is hereby issued to institute the following emergency measures for the importation of live animals, meat and meat by-products derived from cattle from Spain:

1. Banning the importation of live animal, meat, meat products, meat by-products including bovine processed animal protein and semen;
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above-stated commodities;
3. All shipments coming from Spain that are IN TRANSIT/ LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the Spanish Authorities shall be allowed **provided that the products were slaughtered/produced on or before December 21, 2022.**
4. Shipments with ship out date after the communication of this Order to the Spanish Authorities shall be dealt with as per DA Administrative Order 9 series of 2010, Section VII.D;
5. More rigorous and tight inspection on all arrivals of meat and meat by-products derived from cattle including live animals and bovine processed animal proteins by DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers assigned at ports of entry.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked in writing. All orders inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 6th day of March 2023.


DOMINGO E. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary *mw*



DA-CO-USECPP-MO20230227-00005