

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. <u>12</u> Series of 2022

SUBJECT:

AMENDMENT TO THE DA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 6 s. 2022 "GUIDELINES ON MOVEMENT OF DOMESTIC AND CAPTURED WILD (ORNAMENTAL) BIRDS AND POULTRY PRODUCTS & BY-PRODUCTS DURING THE AVIAN INFLUENZA OUTBREAK"

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) issued Memorandum Circular No. 6 s.2022 on March 7, 2022, temporary suspending the movement of all species of LIVE BIRDS (poultry and non-poultry) including day-old chicks, day-old pullets, hatching eggs, ready to lay pullets, ducks and quails from Mainland Luzon (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5 and Cordillera Administrative Region), to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao for thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, as of April 4, 2022, confirmed cases of Avian Influenza Subtype H5N1 were reported in the provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Bataan, Laguna, Camarines Sur, Benguet, Sultan Kudarat, North Cotabato and Davao del Sur;

WHEREAS, As of March 24, 2022, the Avian Influenza Subtype H5N1 is the prevailing current strain affecting poultry species in thirty-one (31) countries including the Philippines;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the outbreak cases of H5N1 over the last thirty (30) days, the majority of the affected poultry species remains with ducks and quails;

WHEREAS, to ensure supply chain continuity and local food sufficiency, the movement of day-old breeder chicks, day-old pullets, and hatching eggs from biosecured and regulatory compliant farms in Mainland Luzon may be allowed subject to additional measures;

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, DA Administrative Order No.6 s.2022 is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. LIVE BIRDS (poultry and non-poultry)

- Movement of all species of LIVE BIRDS (poultry and non-poultry) except day-old breeder chicks, day-old pullets, and hatching eggs, from Mainland Luzon (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5 and Cordillera Administrative Region), to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is temporarily suspended for thirty (30) days;
- 2. Day-Old Breeder Chicks, Day-Old Pullets, Ready to Lay Pullets and Hatching Eggs shall only be sourced from farms located in Avian Influenza disease incidence-free municipality/city, with the following additional shipping permit requirements:
 - a. For Hatching Eggs: ELISA test result of samples collected from its source farms within the last seven (7) days;



b. For Day-Old Breeder Chicks, Day-Old Pullets, Ready to Lay Pullets: ELISA test result of samples collected from its source farms within the last twenty-one (21) days.

The shipper may coordinate with the destination LGU - Provincial Veterinary Office for their concurrence or acceptance, prior to any shipment arrangement.

- 3. **Transport/Movement of Pigeons** within the country for Racing, Flying, Training, Breeding, and other related activities are hereby **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
- 4. Transport/Movement of Gamefowls within mainland Luzon, and from mainland Luzon and affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao to MIMAROPA, Visayas and other non-affected areas in Mindanao for cockfighting and other related activities are hereby suspended for thirty (30) days;
- 5. Transport/Movement of Gamefowls from MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao to mainland Luzon is allowed. However, due to the dynamic Avian Influenza situation in mainland Luzon and affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao, transport/movement of gamefowls back to MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected areas in Mindanao is prohibited.
- 6. Operation of **Live Bird Markets** in Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Bataan, Laguna, Camarines Sur, Benguet, Sultan Kudarat, North Cotabato, Davao del Sur is **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
- 7. The transport of live ducks within mainland Luzon and from mainland Luzon and affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao to MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected areas in Mindanao for the purposes of grazing (pastol) are hereby suspended for thirty (30) days;
- 8. Inter-regional movement of LIVE DUCKS and QUAILS within Mainland Luzon (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5 and CAR) and Mindanao (Region 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and BARMM) is suspended for thirty (30) days.
- 9. Transport/movement of LIVE DUCKS and QUAILS from Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Bataan, Laguna, Camarines Sur, Benguet, Sultan Kudarat and North Cotabato, Davao del Sur to any destination in the Philippines is suspended for thirty (30) days.
- 10. Similar transport/movement restrictions will be applied progressively for areas with positive detections of Avian Influenza.

Exceptions:

- 1. Transshipment of **imported day-old chicks**, **day-old pullets**, **hatching eggs** from international airports and seaports in Luzon and Mindanao to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is allowed;
- 2. Transshipment of **imported gamefowls** from international airports and seaports in Luzon to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is allowed;



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B. EGGS (table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs, embryonated eggs/balut)

- 1. Transport/Movement of table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs and embryonated eggs (balut) from Mainland Luzon and affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao to MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected areas in Mindanao is allowed provided the following risk mitigation measures are applied:
 - a. Embryonated eggs (*balut*) must be cleaned by the shipper/trader at the source farm **prior to departure** with acetic acid/vinegar at 1:10 dilution or any food grade disinfectant:
 - b. Prior to loading for shipment by air or sea, the closed van/vehicle containing the embryonated eggs (balut) must undergo ultraviolet light disinfection at the port of departure. The assigned Veterinary Quarantine Officer will issue certification that the vehicle has undergone ultraviolet light disinfection.
 - c. Embryonated eggs must be **immediately cooked at destination**. The Provincial Veterinary Office and BAI Veterinary Quarantine Station (VQS) Regional Veterinary Quarantine Office will monitor compliance of the shipper/trader.
 - d. The table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs and embryonated eggs must be transported in new or appropriately sanitized containers or egg trays.
- 2. To further strengthen the steps taken to ensure freedom of table eggs and embryonated eggs (balut) from any disease, and complement safety measures in place, destinations of table eggs and embryonated eggs (balut) shipments in MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected areas in Mindanao may add reasonable protocol such as physical audit of source farms, walk-through process on other food safety measures in place, inspection of arriving shipments and possible further disinfection of the shipment with food grade disinfectant.

C. POULTRY MEAT

The transport of poultry meat from mainland Luzon and affected cities/municipalities in Mindanao to MIMAROPA, Visayas and non-affected areas in Mindanao shall be allowed provided that the shipment is accompanied by **Meat Inspection Certificate (MIC) for domestic meat products** or **Certificate of Meat Inspection (COMI) for imported meat products**. MIC or COMI will be issued by the NMIS along with the Shipping Permit issued by BAI.

D. POULTRY BY PRODUCTS

Movement of poultry dung/manure sourced from BAI-registered farms shall be allowed.



All other provisions of DA Memorandum Circular No. 05 s.2022 "Guidelines on the Local Movement of Domestic and Wild birds and Poultry products and by-products during the Avian Influenza Surveillance Period", as far as practicable, shall apply.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

Done this 6th of April 2022.

WILLIAM D. DAR, PHD

Secretary p

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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