

DA - Memo Order



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

September 17, 2018

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 31
Series of 2018

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD PIGS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING PORK MEAT AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM Belgium

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 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 Dr Jean-François Heymans, Director, Animal Health and Safety of Products of Animal Origin, Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC), Brussels, Belgium to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), that there were outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) in Etalle, Luxembourg, Belgium affecting wild boar as confirmed by Sciensano (National laboratory);


WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of ASF virus to protect the health of the local swine population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures for the importation of domestic and wild pigs and their products from Belgium:

1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild pigs and their products, including pork meat 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. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities into the country by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.
4. Frozen pork meats with slaughter/process date on or before August 25, 2018 are allowed to enter the country subject to veterinary quarantine rules and regulations.¹

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.


EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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¹ Applicable to pork products from accredited establishments already in transit upon the issuance of ban.