

MEMORANDUM ORDER No. 22 Series of 2021

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 France

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 Loic Evain, Directeur Général adjoint, CVO, Direction générale de l'alimentation, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation, Paris, France to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on January 2021, that there were additional outbreaks of H5N8 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus in different departments of France affecting birds as confirmed by the Anses-Ploufragan-Plouzané-Niort laboratory, Ploufragan site (National laboratory);

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to prevent the entry of HPAI virus to protect the health of the local poultry population;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR,** Secretary of the 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 birds and their products from France:

- Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products, including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs, and semen;
- Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above-stated commodities;

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- 3. All shipments IN TRANSIT/LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the French authorities shall be allowed provided the products were slaughtered/produced 21 days before the first outbreak date in the particular locality:
  - Corse Region Haute-Corse (7 November 2020), Corse-Du-Sud (12 November 2020);
  - ii. Ile de France Region Yvelines (13 November 2020);
  - Nouvelle Aquitaine Region Deux-Sèvres (10 December 2020), Landes (5 December 2021), Haute-Garonne (18 January 2021), Lot-Et-Garonne (16 January 2021), Pyrénées-Atlantiques (2 January 2021);
  - iv. Pays de la Loire Vendee (10 December 2020);
  - v. Occitanie Hautes-Pyrénées (19 December 2021), Gers (6 January 2021);
  - vi. Grand Est Ardennes (29 January 2021)
- 4. All other shipments accepted at the port of origin the day after the date of official communication to the French authorities are therefore advised not to sail;
- 5. Shipments which have not complied with the conditions set forth in Item 3 to Item 4 shall be dealt with as per DA AO 9 s. 2010 Section VII.D;
- 6. 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 OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2019)<sup>1</sup>

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

Done this 45 day of March 2021.

WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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<sup>1</sup>Heat treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2019) 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

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