



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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 21
Series of 2022

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM ON THE CHARGING OF THE LABORATORY FEES FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) TEST REQUIRED FOR LOCAL TRANSPORT AND FARM CERTIFICATION BY THE ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSIS AND REFERENCE LABORATORY (ADDRL) OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY (BAI) AND REGIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES (RADDLs)

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) - BAI is tasked to implement AI (AI) Prevention and Control Program as the disease continues to be a threat to the poultry industry;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Avian Influenza Protection Program and the Department of Agriculture (DA) Administrative Circular No. 8 series of 2021, which provides the lists of notifiable animal diseases in the country and guidelines on reporting to the Veterinary Authority, AI Type A subtypes H5 and H7 are reportable to the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);

WHEREAS, AI Type A subtypes H5N1 and H5N8 have been detected in poultry species since February 2022;

WHEREAS, DA issued Memorandum Circular Nos. 5, 6, 12, 16, and 27 series of 2022 on February 24, 2022, March 7, 2022, April 6, 2022, May 11, 2022 and June 30, 2022, respectively, which provide guidance and movement restrictions in several poultry related commodities across different regions in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, to ensure supply chain continuity and local food sufficiency, the movement of poultry related commodities will be allowed subject to additional safety measures, such as but not limited to AI testing, to prevent the further spread of AI Type A subtypes H5 and H7;

WHEREAS, DA Administrative Order (AO) No. 34, Series of 2021 was issued to extend a Moratorium on the charging of Laboratory fees for Avian Influenza Test by the ADDRL of the BAI and the RADDLs until June 30, 2022 only;

WHEREAS, the previous moratorium was issued to support and give ample time to all clients to register their poultry facilities and other poultry related facilities while strengthening AI surveillance and reporting;

WHEREAS, the DA continually supports and encourages our local poultry industry stakeholders to comply with the government requirements while securing food safety and security, in compliance to the Republic Act (RA) 8485 as amended by RA 10631, RA 10631 or the Food Safety Act of 2013, other DA issuances related to the previously mentioned laws;

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WHEREAS, relative to the foregoing, the extension of the moratorium on the charging of the laboratory fees for AI test required by the ADDRL and all RADDLs is applicable **ONLY** to the following:

1. New application for farm certification;
2. Renewal of farm certification;
3. Local transport of live poultry, poultry products and by-products, as endorsed by the Provincial Veterinary Offices, City Veterinary Offices of the independent cities and City/Municipal Veterinary Offices in the National Capital Region, provided that:
 - a. The bird tested shall be transported within the validity period of 14 days from the time of collection;
 - b. If the bird tested was not transported according to the validity period, succeeding costs of the tests shall be shouldered by the client/owner;
 - c. Any proof of unnecessary testing shall be grounds for suspension of issuances of local shipping permits.

This Order shall take effect upon signing shall still be in effect until revoked in writing.

Issued this 19th day of July 2022 in Quezon City.

By Authority of His Excellency:



LEOCADIO S. SEBASTIAN, Ph.D., CESO I
Undersecretary for Operations and Chief of Staff



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