

Import Alert: Restrictions on Avian Commodities Originating from or Transiting France

Issuance Date: September 29, 2023

10:00 Eastern time

Effective date: October 1, 2023

NOTE: This import alert details restrictions specific to avian commodities originating from or transiting through France. For restrictions effective October 1, 2023, specific to duck commodities originating from or transiting through certain other European countries, please see the import alert issued on September 29, 2023, entitled “Import Alert: Restrictions on Duck Commodities Originating from or Transiting the APHIS-defined European Poultry Trade Region (Excluding Great Britain), Bulgaria, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.”

Effective October 1, 2023, and until further notice, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) is restricting the importation of all poultry (as defined by the WOA) and hatching eggs of poultry, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products from France. Any of these commodities originating from or transiting through France are prohibited, based on the uncertainty surrounding France’s vaccination plans for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic birds. The restrictions on these commodities apply to shipments accompanied by zoosanitary certificates issued by an official of the competent veterinary authority on or after the effective date.

Under these restrictions, processed avian products and byproducts originating from or transiting France, imported as cargo, must be accompanied by an APHIS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products were treated according to APHIS requirements.

Importation, as cargo, of fresh, unprocessed shell/table eggs and other egg products, void of the shell (i.e., liquid eggs, dried egg whites, etc.), originating from or transiting France, is prohibited unless they are consigned from the port of arrival directly to an APHIS-approved breaking and pasteurization facility. An import permit and/or certificate is not required for these shipments when consigned directly to an APHIS-approved establishment.

Processed avian products and byproducts, including egg/egg products, for personal use originating from or transiting France entering in passenger baggage must:

- have a thoroughly cooked appearance; and
- be shelf-stable as a result of APHIS-approved packaging and cooking (i.e., packaged in hermetically sealed containers and cooked by a commercial method after such packing to produce articles that are shelf stable without refrigeration); or
- be accompanied by an APHIS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products/byproducts were treated according to APHIS requirements.

Unprocessed avian products and byproducts originating from or transiting France will not be permitted to enter the United States. This includes hunter harvested, non-fully finished avian trophies and meat.

Importation of poultry (as defined by WOA) and hatching eggs of poultry will be prohibited. Zoo birds or unvaccinated pet birds, pigeons, and doves, may continue to be imported in accordance with the current certification, permitting, and quarantine requirements detailed on the [APHIS Live Animal Import website](#).

These restrictions will be updated as additional epidemiological information is obtained. Current information can be found on the [APHIS website](#).