**IMPORT ALERT:** Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) restrictions for avian commodities originating from or transiting the Philippines

**Issuance Date:** August 15, 2017 **Effective Date:** August 7, 2017

Effective August 7, 2017, U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) is prohibiting the importation of poultry, commercial birds, other types of birds (research, performing), ratites, any avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products from the Philippines. Any of these commodities originating from or transiting through the Philippines are prohibited entry to the United States, based on the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza in commercial poultry. These restrictions will be updated as we receive additional information on the animal health situation in the Philippines.

Current information can be found on the APHIS website: Regions Under Temporary Restrictions.

Processed avian products and by-products originating from or transiting through the Philippines 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.

Processed avian products and by-products for personal use originating from or transiting through the Philippines entering in passenger baggage not having a thoroughly cooked appearance, or not 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), must also be accompanied by a VS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products/by-products were treated according to APHIS requirements.

Unprocessed avian products and by-products originating from or transiting the Philippines are not permitted to enter in passenger baggage. This includes hunter harvested, non-fully finished avian trophies and meat.

U.S. origin and non U.S. origin, pet birds, or zoological birds, may be imported from the Philippines with an APHIS import permit. They must undergo a required 30-day quarantine in one of the two USDA Quarantine Centers.

Contact information for the USDA Quarantine Centers is listed below:

New York Animal Import Center 230-59 Rockaway Boulevard Suite 101 Jamaica, New York 11413 Phone: (845) 838-5500

Fax: (845) 838-5516

Miami Animal Import Center USDA/APHIS/VS 6300 NW 36th Street Miami, Florida 33122 Phone: (305) 876-2200

Fax: (305) 876-2201

For any other questions, please contact a local Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), Veterinary Regulatory Support (VRS) Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI), Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO), or PPQ VRS headquarters staff in Riverdale, Maryland at (301) 851-2295.

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