



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

Veterinary Services

National Center for  
Import and Export

4700 River Rd.  
Unit 39  
Riverdale, MD 20737

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## **Import Alert: HPAI restrictions for avian commodities originating from or transiting Mexico**

**Issuance Date: June 26, 2012**

Effective immediately, and until further notice, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) is placing temporary prohibitions on the importation of poultry, commercial birds, non-U.S.-origin pet birds, other types of birds (zoological, research, performing), ratites, any avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and by-products, and certain fresh poultry products from Mexico. Any of these commodities originating from or transiting through Mexico are prohibited entry to the United States, based on the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza in commercial poultry. These restrictions may be updated as additional epidemiological information is obtained.

Previously, VS has placed avian commodity prohibitions on the following countries due to the presence of HPAI: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cambodia, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire), Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Autonomous Territories, People's Republic of China, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Sudan, Taipei Chinese/Taiwan, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, and Vietnam. These prohibitions continue in effect.

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

Fresh poultry products will continue to be allowed, with the appropriate certification, from only the following establishments:



*Safeguarding American Agriculture*

APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Programs  
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Federal Relay Service  
(Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)  
1-800-877-8339

1. TIF Establishment 241 -- Productura de bocados carnicos S.A. De C.V. Monterrey
2. TIF Establishment 344 – Procesadora de Productos Carnicos del Noreste, S.A. de C.V. Colombia-Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

U.S.-origin pet birds will be allowed to return to the US from Mexico under an APHIS import permit, and undergo a required 30-day quarantine in one of the three USDA Quarantine Centers below. 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

Los Angeles Animal Import Center  
Los Angeles International Airport  
11850 South La Cienega Blvd.  
Hawthorne, California 90250  
Phone: (310) 725-1970  
Fax: (310) 725-9119

Miami Animal Import Center  
USDA/APHIS/VS  
6300 NW 36th Street  
Miami, Florida 33122  
Phone: (305) 876-2199  
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.

Dr. Joyce Bowling-Heyward  
Director  
NCIE, Live Animal Imports and Exports  
USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services

Dr. Karen James-Preston  
Director  
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