Import Alert: HPAI restrictions for avian commodities originating from or transiting Akita, Kagoshima, or Hyogo Prefecture in Japan

Issuance Date: November 23, 2021

Effective date: November 10, 2021—Akita Prefecture
November 13, 2021—Kagoshima Prefecture
November 17, 2021—Hyogo Prefecture

Effective November 17, 2021, 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 poultry, commercial birds, ratites, avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products from Hyogo Prefecture, Japan.

As previously announced, VS continues to restrict the importation of poultry, commercial birds, ratites, avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products from Akita Prefecture (effective November 10, 2021) and Kagoshima Prefecture (effective November 13, 2021). Any of these commodities originating from or transiting through one of these three prefectures are prohibited, based on the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic birds.

Under these restrictions, processed avian products and byproducts originating from or transiting one of these three prefectures 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.

Fresh, unprocessed shell/table eggs and other egg products, void of the shell (i.e. liquid eggs, dried egg whites) originating from or transiting one of these three prefectures imported as cargo are 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 to an APHIS-approved establishment.

Processed avian products and byproducts, including egg/egg products, for personal use originating from or transiting through one of these three prefectures entering in passenger baggage which do not have a thoroughly cooked appearance, or are 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 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 through one of these three prefectures will not be permitted to enter the United States. This includes hunter harvested, non-fully finished avian trophies and meat.
Importation of poultry, commercial birds, ratites, and hatching eggs originating from or transiting through one of these three prefectures will be prohibited. However, pet and zoo birds, pigeons and doves, may be imported under an APHIS import permit, and will be subject to a 30-day quarantine at the New York Animal Import Center in Newburgh, NY or the Miami Animal Import Center in Miami, FL.

These restrictions will be updated as additional epidemiological information is obtained. Current information can be found on the APHIS website.