



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services
Strategy & Policy

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Import Alert: Release of HPAI restrictions for avian commodities originating from or transiting Fukuoka and Hyogo Prefectures, Japan

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Effective date: April 26, 2021

Effective April 26, 2021, and until further notice, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) is removing the restrictions on the importation of poultry, commercial birds, ratites, avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products from Fukuoka and Hyogo Prefectures, Japan.

VS placed avian commodity restrictions on Fukuoka and Hyogo Prefectures on November 25, 2020, due to the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic birds. However, both prefectures have effectively demonstrated complete resolution of the HPAI outbreaks and met the requirements to regain their previous HPAI-free status in accordance to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, Chapter 10.4, Article 10.4.3. Therefore, this alert rescinds the previous alert and removes the HPAI restrictions for avian commodities from or transiting Fukuoka and Hyogo Prefectures.

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 Kagawa Prefecture (effective November 5, 2020), Miyazaki Prefecture (effective December 1, 2020), Nara Prefecture (effective December 6, 2020), Hiroshima Prefecture (effective December 7, 2020), Oita and Wakayama Prefectures (effective December 10, 2020), Okayama Prefecture (effective December 11, 2020), Shiga Prefecture (effective December 13, 2020), Kochi Prefecture (effective December 16, 2020), Tokushima Prefecture (effective December 19, 2020), Chiba Prefecture (effective December 24, 2020), Gifu Prefecture (effective January 2, 2021), Kagoshima Prefecture (effective January 13, 2021), Toyama Prefecture (effective January 23, 2021), Ibaraki Prefecture (effective January 31, 2021), and Tochigi Prefecture (effective March 13, 2021).

Any of these commodities originating from or transiting through one of the sixteen restricted prefectures are prohibited, based on the diagnosis of HPAI in domestic birds.

Under these restrictions, processed avian products and byproducts originating from or transiting one of the sixteen restricted 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 the sixteen restricted 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 the sixteen restricted 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 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 through one of the sixteen restricted 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 one of the sixteen restricted 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](#).