

## Feathers

Below is the certification believed to be required to import feathers to Japan from the United States.

NOTE- feathers imported from States upon which Japan has imposed an Avian Influenza ban may require fumigation at the port of entry into Japan. Japanese port officials will determine if this is necessary based upon the processing/treatment information provided below. Exporters are encouraged to have their importers clarify with Japanese port authorities prior to exporting. For a list of States upon which Japan has imposed an Avian Influenza ban, please see link regarding trade bans on the previous page.

**We have received reports that some ports in Japan are not honoring this agreement, and are requiring all consignments to be fumigated in Japan regardless of the certification that APHIS provides.** Exporters are advised to have their importers discuss with the pertinent Japanese government officials at the port of entry into Japan prior to seeking APHIS certification or exporting.

The following is the exact text that should be included in the “Additional Declaration” space on the VS Form 16-4. No additional text may be included.

*This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [insert name of company here] verifying the accuracy of the statements below. I, the endorsing official listed below, have read the notarized affidavit referenced above, and to the best of my knowledge and belief these statements are true.*

*The feathers described below originate in [insert state or states]. The feathers have been obtained from poultry which seemed healthy. The feathers are not known to be contaminated with any agent of infectious disease. The feathers have been handled in a sanitary manner throughout their processing. The feathers have been [insert description of any processing or packaging- the processing should detail any relevant parameters such as times and temperatures (if heated) or concentrations (if treated with chemicals)].*

NOTE- if the feathers are imported from another country- that country may be placed in the “[insert state or states]” area. In these cases, a legible scan of the lot specific export certificate from the government of the country of origin must be submitted by the U.S. exporter to APHIS with the prepared VS Form 16-4. That certificate from the country of origin must contain all applicable statements referenced above. Further, if the certificate does not indicate that the feathers were shipped directly to the U.S. exporters, documentation must be provided from each facility that handled the feathers in the U.S. Neither this documentation nor the certificate from the country of export becomes part of the actual certificate endorsed by APHIS.