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Mexico

Poultry and Products

Status on Avian Influenza - Update #4

2004

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Report Highlights:

Avian Influenza restrictions for Texas were lifted except for the following counties: Gonzales, Guadalupe, Galdwell, Bastrop, Fayette, La Vaca, De Witt, Karnes, Wilson, Comal and Hays. Mexico currently maintains a partial AI restriction on Texas and a total AI restriction on all counties within the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON AVIAN INFLUENZA FOR TEXAS

The Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) in Mexico lifted the avian influenza (AI) restrictions imposed on May 26, 2004 due to an outbreak of AI in Hopkins County, Texas. SAGARPA had prohibited all poultry imports originating or coming from the state of Texas due to this outbreak (See report MX4080).

On July 7, 2004, SAGARPA's web page published the requirements to import raw material for thermal processing; this announcement now allows certain poultry products to be imported from some Texas counties. However, import restrictions continue to apply to the following Texas counties due to a previous high path AI (HPAI) outbreak: Gonzales, Guadalupe, Galdwell, Bastrop, Fayette, La Vaca, De Witt, Karnes, Wilson, Comal and Hays.

Import restrictions continue for the states of California, and Connecticut because of their vaccines program, and Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania because of recent detections of low path AI (LPAI).

The following table summarizes some of the regulations that are currently being implemented by the Mexican government for U.S. live poultry and poultry meat exports.

REGULATIONS FOR POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS EXPORTS

ITEM	RAW POULTRY DIRECT CONSUMPTION ①	RAW POULTRY FURTHER PROCESSING⑥	FULLY COOKED PRODUCTS	HATCHING EGGS	THREE DAY OLD CHICKS
END EXPORT STATUS②	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
AI STATES EXPORT STATUS③	NO	YES ⑦	YES	NO	NO
REQUIRED LANGUAGE ON CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF TRUCKS	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
REQUIRED SEALING OF TRUCKS AT POINT OF ORIGIN	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
AGAR GEL TEST REQUIRED	YES	NO	NO	YES④	YES④
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS ON END⑤	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

① SAGARPA still does not allow imports of bone-in chicken leg quarters for further processing to the interior of Mexico because of concerns about products being diverted to the retail market.

② Restrictions for END were lifted for the last affected states of California, Nevada, Texas and Arizona.

③ Imports are prohibited from the states of Connecticut, California, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland and Pennsylvania because of LPAI, and the following Texas counties due to a HPAI outbreak: Gonzales, Guadalupe, Galdwell, Bastrop, Fayette, La Vaca, De Witt, Karnes, Wilson, Comal and Hays. Therefore meat and birds should not come or originate from these areas.

- ④ Test should begin 21 days before laying and should continue on a quarterly basis.
- ⑤ Statement for meat, meat products and by products. - "That the product comes from flocks that have a monitoring program of 70 birds that began after 12 days of age, using viral isolation tests and identification of velogenic strains through a test that indicates intracerebral pathogenicity in chicks of one day of age and that is carried out for each lot that is delivered for slaughter, obtaining negative results for Velogenic Newcastle disease, or that comes from a country free of Velogenic Newcastle Disease. "
- ⑥ Imports are only approved to proceed to Federal Inspected Plants (TIF) and non-TIF meat processing facilities authorized by SAGARPA.
- ⑦ Imports are prohibited from California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas, unless that their destination is an establishment authorized by SAGARPA to carry out thermal treatment processes. However, imports of raw material for thermal processing should not come or originate from the following Texas counties: Gonzales, Guadalupe, Galdwell, Bastrop, Fayette, La Vaca, De Witt, Karnes, Wilson, Comal and Hays.

For additional information regarding poultry meat and egg products exports to Mexico see the web page USDA/FSIS/Export Library at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov> (Export Requirements for meat and poultry products)