

February 10, 2015

Notice to the Trade

Since mid-December, numerous detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza have been reported in the Pacific Flyway states resulting in several countries imposing export bans on U.S. poultry products. Per international animal health standards, governmental animal health agencies are obligated to report qualifying disease detections to their foreign counterparts. As disease incidents occur and countries impose export bans, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) notifies the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) who in turn, issues detailed information to field offices via email. This information is used at the field level to determine a country's export status prior to official certification of shell eggs. During periods of elevated levels of disease detection, AMS has found it useful to maintain an internal tracking file that tabulates country specific restrictions on trade.

Due to several requests from stakeholders we have now made this information available to interested parties on the AMS website at:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMsv1.0/PYEggExportRequirements>.

As a cautionary note, countries may change their import requirements without notice, it is strongly suggested that exporters contact the National Shell Egg Supervisor for country specific eligibility prior to exporting table eggs. In all cases, the exporter has the responsibility of having their importer confirm with the Ministry of Animal Health in the importing country the certification requirements prior to shipment.

If you have questions, contact Jennifer Porter, Director, at (202) 690-3147, or Mark Perigen, National Shell Egg Supervisor, at 209-522-5251.



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