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China, Peoples Republic of

Poultry and Products

China Announces Lifting of Ban on Imported US Live Poultry and Poultry Products

2004

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Report Highlights:

On November 8, 2004, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) jointly announced a lifting of the import ban on US live poultry and poultry products. US poultry products from all states, except Connecticut and Rhode Island, processed on or after November 9, 2004, will be permitted entry into China. In a meeting with FAS Beijing, MOA emphasized their strong adherence to OIE and other international standards, intimating the hope that the United States will use the same guidelines in assessing China's request for cooked poultry access and the lifting of the US ban on Chinese Ya pears.

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On November 8, 2004, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) jointly announced a lifting of the import ban on US live poultry and poultry products. Poultry processed on or after November 9, 2004, will be permitted entry into China. Below is a translation of this document.

Based on the China's rescinding notifications nos. 241, 253, 269 and 344, US poultry products from all states, except Connecticut and Rhode Island, is permitted entry into China. Chinese officials explained that the ban on these two states stems from concerns about the mutability of the H7 strain of avian influenza that occurred in those states. But MOA indicated a willingness to lift the ban on these remaining states if they are provided more information about why this strain will not mutate to highly pathogenic. A translation of the original notifications (nos. 257 and 280) banning these two states is also included below.

During a meeting with FAS Beijing on November 9, MOA emphasized their strong adherence to OIE and other international standards, intimating the hope that the United States will use the same guidelines in assessing China's request for cooked poultry access and the lifting of the US ban on Chinese Ya pears. An unofficial translation of China's announcement is attached.

Following is an unofficial translation of China's announcement lifting the ban on imported US poultry.

November 8, 2004

**No. 422 Joint Announcement
Of
The Ministry of Agriculture
And
The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine
Of the People's Republic of China**

Based on the fact that the United States has complied with the OIE requirement for a country with New Castle Disease and highly pathogenic avian influenza, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China here jointly announce that MOA and AQSIQ have decided to lift the bans, as of today, on US live poultry and poultry products previously identified in No. 241, No. 253, No. 269 and No. 344 announcements. Imported poultry products from the United States that are processed or produced after this date of announcement and that comply with relevant Chinese laws and regulations shall be permitted.

(End of announcement)

Following is an unofficial translation of the original 2003 notification that banned imports of US poultry from the State of Connecticut (the Rhode Island notice, no. 280, is the same).

March 14, 2003

**No. 257 Joint Announcement
Of
The Ministry of Agriculture
And
The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine**

Of the People's Republic of China

On March 3, 2003, the Central Veterinary Laboratory of USDA preliminarily confirmed that Connecticut State experienced an outbreak of avian influenza (H7N2). In order to prevent the disease from entering China and to protect China's livestock safety, the Ministry of Agriculture and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine jointly announce the following regulation based on the Law of the People's Republic of China on Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine.

- 1. Forbid direct or indirect imports of poultry birds and products from Connecticut State. Any poultry birds and products from this state, which have already arrived at Chinese ports shall be returned or destroyed.*
- 2. Forbid entry of poultry birds and products from the Connecticut State sent through post or brought in by travelers. Once found, the poultry birds and products shall be returned or destroyed.*
- 3. If there are poultry birds or products from Connecticut State onboard international flights, ships and trains that stop in China for transiting, they should be sealed. Poultry birds raised by the crew for their own consumption should be put in fast cages. Wastes from those means of transportation should be disinfected under the supervision of the entry and exit inspection and quarantine agency (CIQ). They should not be dumped at will.*
- 4. All intercepted poultry birds or products from Connecticut State, which were smuggled into China, should be destroyed under the supervision of CIQ*
- 5. Poultry birds or products from the United States, but unknown exactly where, are considered from Connecticut State and will be treated the same as from Connecticut State.*
- 6. Any violation of the above mention regulation will be handled based on the Law of the People's Republic of China on Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine.*
- 7. All entry and exit inspection and quarantine offices and animal disease prevention supervision offices at various levels should cooperate with each to do a good job in supervision of inspection, quarantine and animal disease prevention.*
- 8. This regulation becomes effective on the date of announcement.*

(End of report)