

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Namibia Bans Poultry Imports from South Carolina

**Country:** Namibia

**Post:** Pretoria

**Report Category:** Poultry and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

On April 9, 2020, the United States reported an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The outbreak was reported to have started on March 6, 2020. As a result of the report by the United States to the OIE, Namibia's Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) notified the country's importers and the public that a ban on poultry imports from the administrative state of South Carolina would be instituted due to the HPAI outbreak. During 2019, Namibia imported 5,216 tons of poultry products from the United States at a value of USD\$5 million.

## Background

On April 9, 2020, the United States reported an outbreak of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The outbreak was reported to have started on March 6, 2020. The reported case was found in a commercial turkey farm in Chesterfield county, South Carolina. In the report to the OIE, the U.S. Department of Agriculture stated that the infected premises have an epidemiological link to another South Carolina premises that was recently affected by Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI). The virus killed 1,583 turkeys and the remaining 32,577 birds have since been euthanized. The last time the United States experienced a worse HPAI outbreak was during the years 2014/2015 when 50 million birds were affected and the majority of the flock consisted of layers, which were killed due to the bird flu.

### Namibia Bans Imports of Poultry Products from South Carolina

As a result of the report by the United States to the OIE, Namibia's Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) notified the country's importers and the public that a ban on poultry imports from the administrative state of South Carolina would be instituted due to the HPAI outbreak. MAWLR announced that the ban would be applicable to imports and in transit movement of live poultry and poultry products, ostriches and ostrich products. According to a protocol agreement between MAWLR's Directorate of Veterinary Services and the United States Department of Agriculture, in the event of an HPAI outbreak in one or more U.S. administrative territories, import permits will continue to be issued for the importation of poultry and their products from establishments in other administrative territories not affected by the outbreak.

Since the incubation period of the disease is 21 days as set out by the OIE, the ban takes effect 21 days prior to the start of the outbreak. Consignments containing poultry products dated on or after March 17, 2020 from South Carolina will be rejected and sent back to the United States or destroyed at a cost to the importer.

### Namibia's Poultry Imports from the World

Table 1 below shows Namibia's imports of poultry from the world. The United States is ranked fourth on the list of top five trading partners that export poultry products to Namibia. During 2019, Namibia imported 5,216 tons of poultry products at a value of USD\$5 million from the United States. Between the years 2015 and 2019, the United States exported 20,146 tons of poultry products at a value of USD\$19 million.

**Table 1: Namibia's Poultry Imports from the World in Tons, (2015-2019)**

Partner	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Sum
South Africa	15,693	17,557	12,872	6,712	5,222	58,056
Brazil	2,205	1,510	6,273	12,599	16,272	38,859
European Union	809	811	4,761	9,811	12,862	29,054
United States	4,414	1,417	3,201	5,898	5,216	20,146
Others	2163	913	874	1216	5553	10,719
World	25,283	22,208	27,980	36,235	45,126	156,832

Source: South African Revenue Services

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.