

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** August 21, 2024

**Report Number:** TU2024-0037

**Report Name:** Turkish Ministry Restriction on US Cattle Due to HPAI Cases

**Country:** Turkiye

**Post:** Ankara

**Report Category:** Dairy and Products, Livestock and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

**Prepared By:** Sinem Duyum

**Approved By:** Rishan Chaudhry

**Report Highlights:**

As of May 15, 2024, Turkiye’s Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry announced a ban on the importation of live cattle from the United States following confirmed Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) cases in some U.S. lactating dairy cows. The value of cattle exports from the U.S. to Türkiye in 2023 was \$16 million, and 2024 was expected to be a record year for U.S. cattle exports to Turkiye having already reached \$13 million as of April. At the time of the market’s closure, there were three shipments planned from the United States valued at approximately \$20 million.

## **Suspended Import Permissions:**

On May 15, 2024, FAS/Ankara was informed that Turkiye's Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry (MinAF) would be enacting an embargo on the import of live cattle from the United States due to fears surrounding the detection of HPAI in some U.S. dairy cattle herds. Of the 20 countries that the United States exports live dairy cattle to, Turkiye is one of only three that enacted a ban in contradiction to the World Organization of Animal Health's (WOAH) recommendation. To date, one of those countries has since lifted its restrictions on the import of U.S. cattle, and the third has only restricted imports from affected U.S. states.

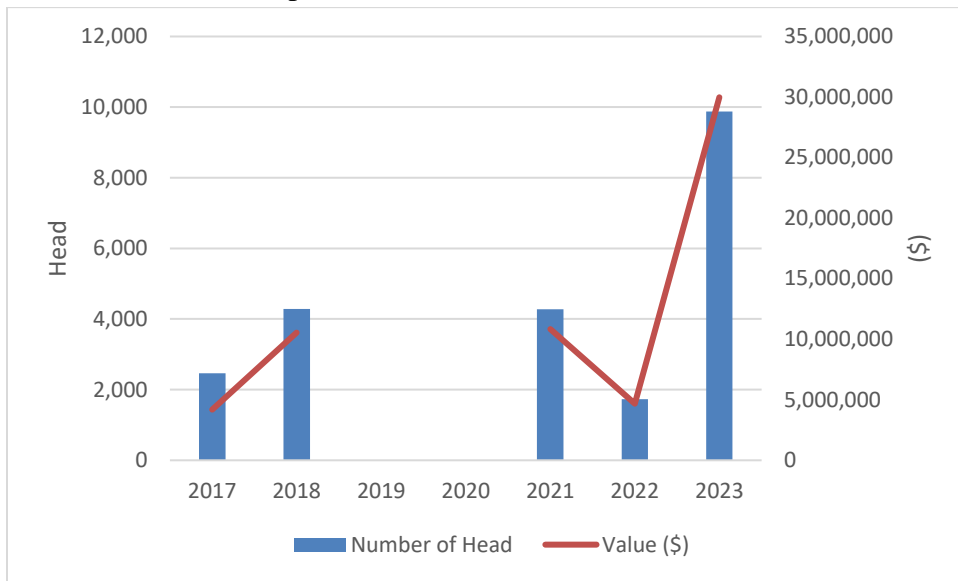
## **FAS & APHIS Engagement with Turkish Government**

Soon after the outbreak was first announced and well before the ban was established, FAS/Ankara negotiated with MinAF to allow for two shipments to arrive, which included unique HPAI pre- and post-shipment testing of the animals. All HPAI tests were negative, no health issues were detected, and local industry remains very satisfied with the high-quality animals received from the United States. While Turkiye struggles with low cattle herd inventories and increasingly limited options for sourcing dairy cattle, MinAF continues to question the United States's approach to managing the disease

USDA is committed to productively engaging with MinAF based on what is known about the disease. Throughout our engagement, USDA has regularly shared updates with MinAF regarding the most up-to-date data and best practices for disease management and mitigation. Additionally, USDA has provided technical responses to a list of questions from MinAF regarding the disease. Moreover, USDA met with MinAF on the margins of the recent WOAH General Session in May 2024 to find a way forward. However, despite these exchanges, MinAF remains reluctant to reopen the market, which would ensure Turkiye's continued supply of high-quality U.S. dairy cattle and provide some relief to domestic producers and consumers.

FAS/Ankara, with the support of APHIS, continues to negotiate with MinAF on lifting the restriction on U.S. cattle.

Cattle Imports from the United States, 2017-2023



Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.