

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 7/16/2018

GAIN Report Number: GM18027

Germany

Post: Berlin

China and Germany Discuss Animal Health Sanitary Issues

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

Approved By:

Jennifer Lappin

Prepared By:

Leif Erik Rehder

Report Highlights:

The Minister of Agriculture of China has declared that China will work to reopen the market for German poultry. During the meeting, German Agriculture Minister Julia Klöckner also advocated for China's recognition of regionalization for German pork, should Germany be affected by African Swine Fever (ASF). Presently ASF has been found in seven EU countries, including neighboring Poland and the Czech Republic.[i]

General Information:

The Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Julia Klöckner welcomed her Chinese counterpart, Han Changfu, in Berlin during German-Chinese bilateral consultations on July 8, 2018. Both Ministers discussed trade issues and animal health issues. For exports, Klöckner and Changfu have agreed that China will reopen its market for poultry from Germany. China had banned imports of all poultry products and genetics from Germany following an outbreak of avian influenza in 2006. China has now come to the conclusion that there is no longer cause for concern. However, veterinary negotiations must be concluded before German exports of poultry and poultry products, as well as genetics to China, can be reestablished.

Germany was a supplier of poultry genetics to China until 2006. Since then, German poultry production has shown continuous growth resulting in an oversupply on the German market. Every year, Germany exports roughly 500,000 metric tons of poultry meat – 90 percent within the European market, and the rest to non-European markets like Ukraine and Switzerland. Exports to China are expected to be mostly genetics and poultry parts for which there is small demand in Germany and the European Union.

Minister Klöckner expressed satisfaction with the joint meeting: "This was a successful and hard-working meeting, which took place in a very good atmosphere. I have agreed with my Chinese counterpart that Germany may again export poultry to China. This is good news for the German poultry industry."

Minister Klöckner also addressed the comprehensive prevention measures taken by Germany and the EU in regards to African Swine Fever. She campaigned for the World Organization for Animal Health regionalization concept, which would allow for regionalization in the event of an outbreak versus a complete cessation of pork exports from Germany.

In the area of research and development of rural areas, both agriculture Ministers called for closer exchange. The proposed focus will increasingly be on the question of digital agriculture. Minister Klöckner invited her colleague to the upcoming Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin, Germany, as part of the International Green Week in January 2019. GFFA will focus on mechanization and digital agriculture.

Another focus of the discussion was the German-Chinese Agricultural Center. The center was established three years ago on the initiative of the German Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Li. "There are few areas in which the close and successful cooperation between Germany and China is as explicit as in the field of agriculture. And, the German-Sino Agricultural Centre is the best proof for this," says Klöckner. The center is portrayed as a unique platform for a lively partnership with mutual benefits for both countries. For more information please see <https://dcz-china.org/>.

[1] Ter Beek, Vincent. (2018, July 11) "ASF update: Outbreaks in Romania, EU steps up the fight" in Pig Progress: https://www.pigprogress.net/Health/Articles/2018/7/ASF-update-Outbreaks-in-Romania-EU-steps-up-the-fight-308334E/?cmpid=NLC|pigprogress_focus|2018-07-11].

