

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Trader Notice: MH 18/2021

To: All operators of DAFM-approved meat establishments

Subject: Revision of the health certificate for the export of chilled / frozen poultrymeat to Hong Kong

The Department has reached agreement with the Centre for Food Safety in Hong Kong on revisions to the current meat inspection certificate for the export of raw chilled / frozen poultrymeat. The certificate is for carcasses, cuts, parts and visceral organs.

Scope

The revised text incorporates amended disease freedom attestations regarding eligibility and recovery periods for HPAI and Newcastle Disease, inclusion of a trader registration number under consignment details and some minor formatting changes.

Consistent with current international standards, the health attestations for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease have been updated as follows:

- [The poultry from which the meat derives...] *came from registered farms and approved slaughter plants free from High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza and which are not situated in a zone infected with High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza for the past 12 months or during the past 28 days after stamping-out policy (including disinfection of all affected establishments) has been completed;*
- [The poultry from which the meat derives...] *came from registered farms and approved slaughter plants free from Newcastle Disease and which are not situated in a zone infected with Newcastle Disease for the past 12 months or during the past three months after stamping-out policy (including disinfection of all affected establishments) has been completed.*

The Hong Kong authorities interpret 'zone' to mean the county in which an outbreak occurs. For certification purposes, DAFM considers the affected zone to include disease containment areas extending into contiguous counties within the territory of the state.

Role of the Food Business Operator (FBO)

FBOs sending, or intending to send, raw poultrymeat to Hong Kong should ensure that they satisfy the new export certification criteria, including the zoning arrangements applicable in the event of a disease outbreak. This will mean amending an existing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or drawing up a new SOP for poultrymeat exports to Hong Kong in consultation with the responsible Department Veterinary Inspector.

Meat Inspection Certificate

Copies of the new certificate, printed on secure stationery, will be made available on request to certifying officers through the usual channels.

The revised certificate will be published concurrently with this notice on the DAFM website.

Trader Notice MH 37/2014 is hereby updated accordingly.

Meat Market Access Section
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