



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 06
Series of 2022

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON MOVEMENT OF DOMESTIC AND CAPTURED WILD (ORNAMENTAL) BIRDS AND POULTRY PRODUCTS & BY-PRODUCTS DURING THE AVIAN INFLUENZA OUTBREAK

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) through the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) has confirmed the first detection of Avian Influenza Type A Subtype H5N1 in duck farms in the Municipalities of Baliuag in Bulacan and Candaba in Pampanga; and in quail farms in the Municipalities of Candaba and Mexico in Pampanga;

WHEREAS, an Immediate notification on the first case of Avian Influenza Type A Subtype H5N1 was submitted to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on 18 February 2022 and was published to the OIE World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) on 21 February 2022;

WHEREAS, in the subsequent conduct of surveillance activities within the 1-km quarantine area and disease investigation as part of trace back/trace forward monitoring, additional cases of Avian Influenza Type A Subtype H5N1 were confirmed in Minalin, Pampanga; Victoria, Laguna; and in Bula and Sipocot, Camarines Sur;

WHEREAS, to date, the reported affected species were mainly ducks, quails and some native chickens present in the affected duck/quail farm(s);

WHEREAS, additional measures in the disinfection of poultry products such as salted egg and *balut* shall be required to ensure protection of these products from potential pathogen;

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 5 Series of 2022 "Guidelines on the Local Movement of Domestic and Wild birds and Poultry products and by-products during the Avian Influenza Surveillance Period" was issued on 24 February 2022 to provide guidance in the local movement of Domestic and Wild birds and Poultry products and by-products from within and outside the 1-km quarantine area;

To further protect the Avian Influenza free areas in the country and ensure that potential spread through trade of susceptible population is mitigated, the following movement guidelines are hereby prescribed:

A. LIVE BIRDS (poultry and non-poultry)

1. Movement of all species of LIVE BIRDS (poultry and non-poultry) including **day-old chicks, day-old pullets, hatching eggs, ready to lay pullets, ducks and quails** from Mainland Luzon (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5 and Cordillera Administrative Region), to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is temporarily **suspended for thirty (30) days**;

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2. **Transport/Movement of Pigeons** within mainland Luzon, and from mainland Luzon to MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao for Racing, Flying, Training, Breeding, and other related activities are hereby **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
3. **Transport/Movement of Gamefowls** within mainland Luzon, and from mainland Luzon to MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao for cockfighting and other related activities are hereby **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
4. **Transport/Movement of Gamefowls** from MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao to mainland Luzon is allowed. However, due to the dynamic Avian Influenza situation in mainland Luzon, transport/movement of gamefowls back to MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao is prohibited due to reasons cited in number 5;
5. Operation of **Live Bird Markets** in Bulacan, Pampanga, Laguna, Camarines Sur is **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
6. The **transport of live ducks** within mainland Luzon and from mainland Luzon to MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao **for the purposes of grazing (*pastol*)** are hereby **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
7. **Inter-regional movement of LIVE DUCKS and QUAILS within Mainland Luzon** (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5 and CAR) is **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
8. Transport/movement of **LIVE DUCKS and QUAILS from Bulacan, Pampanga, Laguna and Camarines Sur** to any destination in the Philippines is **suspended for thirty (30) days**;
9. **Similar transport/movement restrictions will be applied progressively for areas with positive detections of Avian Influenza.**

Exceptions:

1. Transshipment of **imported day-old chicks, day-old pullets, hatching eggs** from international airports and seaports in Luzon to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is allowed;
2. Transshipment of **imported gamefowls** from international airports and seaports in Luzon to Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), Visayas and Mindanao is allowed.

B. EGGS (table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs, embryonated eggs/balut)

1. Transport/Movement of table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs and embryonated eggs (*balut*) from Mainland Luzon to MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao is allowed provided the following risk mitigation measures are applied:
 - a. Embryonated eggs (*balut*) must be cleaned by the shipper/trader at the source farm **prior to departure** from mainland Luzon with acetic acid/vinegar at 1:10 dilution or any food grade disinfectant;

- b. Prior to loading for shipment by air or sea, the closed van/vehicle containing the embryonated eggs (*balut*) must undergo **ultraviolet light disinfection** at the port of departure. The assigned Veterinary Quarantine Officer will issue certification that the vehicle has undergone ultraviolet light disinfection;
 - c. Embryonated eggs must be **immediately cooked at destination**. The Provincial Veterinary Office and BAI Veterinary Quarantine Station (VQS) Regional Veterinary Quarantine Office will monitor compliance of the shipper/trader;
 - d. The table eggs, salted eggs, quail eggs and embryonated eggs must be transported in new or appropriately sanitized containers or egg trays.
2. To further strengthen the steps taken to ensure freedom of table eggs and embryonated eggs (*balut*) from any disease, and complement safety measures in place, destinations of table eggs and embryonated eggs (*balut*) shipments in MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao may add reasonable protocol such as physical audit of source farms, walk-through process on other food safety measures in place, inspection of arriving shipments and possible further disinfection of the shipment with food grade disinfectant.

C. POULTRY MEAT

The transport of poultry meat from mainland Luzon MIMAROPA, Visayas and Mindanao shall be allowed provided that the shipment is accompanied by Meat Inspection Certificate (MIC) for domestic meat products or Certificate of Meat Inspection (COMI) for imported meat products. MIC or COMI will be issued by the NMIS along with the Shipping Permit issued by BAI.

D. POULTRY BY PRODUCTS

Movement of poultry dung/manure shall not be allowed.

All other provisions of DA Memorandum Circular No.05 Series 2022 "Guidelines on the Local Movement of Domestic and Wild birds and Poultry products and by-products during the Avian Influenza Surveillance Period", as far as practicable, shall apply.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

Done this ~~31~~ of March 2022.

This Order shall take effect immediately.


WILLIAM D. DAR, PhD
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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