



**agriculture, land reform  
& rural development**

Department  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Animal Health, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
Delpen Building, C/o Annie Botha & Union Streets, Riviera, Pretoria, 0084  
Private Bag X138, Pretoria 0001

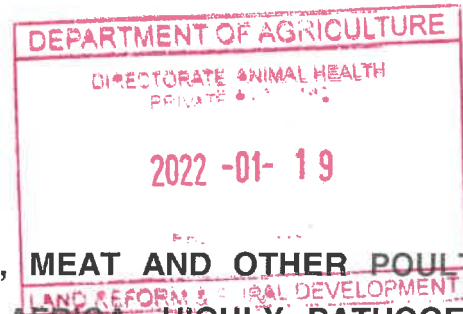
**Enquiries:** Dr Angela Graham • Tel: +27 12 319 7599 • Fax: +27 12 329 6892 • E-mail: [AngelaG@dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:AngelaG@dalrrd.gov.za)

**Reference:** 13/1/18/2/1/8

**ATTENTION ALL IMPORTERS**

**IMPORTATION RESTRICTION NOTICE:**

**RE: IMPORTATION OF LIVE POULTRY, MEAT AND OTHER POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM SPAIN TO SOUTH AFRICA: HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA OUTBREAK IN POULTRY IN SPAIN**



Dear Importer,

An outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has occurred in poultry in Spain (according to OIE report dated 18 January 2022).

It is our policy not to import any poultry or products thereof from countries where Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza occurs in domestic poultry.

The Directorate Animal Health of South Africa has decided to put trade restrictions in place on the import of live poultry, meat and other products derived from poultry from Spain into South Africa. In terms of the trade restrictions the following products are banned from entering South Africa:

1. Live poultry
2. Eggs (excluding SPF eggs)
3. Fresh (including frozen) poultry meat

No new veterinary import permits will be issued for any products mentioned under points 1-3. Unused permits will be cancelled and importers have to return those permits.

Heat processed poultry products for which the importer has obtained a valid veterinary import permit are exempted from this ban.

**The following cut-off dates will be applied:**

A. Consignments containing products packed in their final packaging\* on or after 31 December 2021, will be rejected and returned to Spain or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

This is because the OIE report indicates the "start date" of the event as 13 January 2022 and the incubation period of AI is 14 days according to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Please note that a reefer container will be regarded as a consignment, and will be handled as an entity. We will not allow cartons (eg. in the case of poultry meat) to be sorted according to date of production.

AND

B. Consignments accompanied by veterinary health certificates signed (with an official signature) after 18 January 2022 will be rejected and returned to Spain or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

This is because the official would not have been able to certify country freedom of HPAI once Spain had notified the OIE of the outbreak.

Please note that a reefer container will be regarded as a consignment, and will be handled as an entity. We will not allow cartons (eg. in the case of poultry meat) to be sorted according to date of packing.

Thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards



**DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL HEALTH**

**Date: 2022-01-19**

\* Final packaging means cartons permanently closed and labelled with facility identification, slaughter date and final packing date. This excludes repacked product.