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POLICY

Voluntary - Public

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GAIN Report Number: TS1908

Tunisia

Post: Tunis

Avian Influenza Ban

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

FAIRS Subject Report

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports

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Report Highlights:

This report contains an unofficial translation of MinAg's Order prohibiting the import of poultry and poultry products from all countries with avian influenza. Tunisian imports of poultry and poultry products total \$10 million/year, including live chicks, meat, eggs, feathers, etc. The United States and Tunisia have agreed health certificates to better facilitate the trade of U.S. day-old chicks and hatching eggs with current trade valued at \$1 million/year. This measure has not been notified to the WTO.

Order of the Minister of Agriculture and the Environment dated 10 August 2011, prohibiting the importation or transit of all bird species and all categories of their products, produced or coming from countries contaminated by avian influenza

OGRT #61 of August 16, 2011

The Minister of Agriculture and the Environment,

Having regard to [Law No. 99-24](#) of March 9, 1999, on veterinary sanitary control of imports and exports, and in particular Article 18 thereof,

Having regard to the [Law n ° 95-2005](#) of October 18, 2005, relative to the breeding and the animal products, as modified by the [Law n ° 2007-54](#) of August 8th, 2007 relating to the fight against the doping in the sport,

Having regard to [Decree-Law No. 2011-14](#) of March 23, 2011, on the provisional organization of public authorities,

Having regard to [Decree No 2001-419](#) of February 13, 2001, laying down the powers of the Ministry of Agriculture,

Having regard to [Decree No. 2001-420](#) of February 13, 2001, on the organization of the Ministry of Agriculture, as amended and supplemented by [Decree No. 2010-625](#) of April 5, 2010,

Having regard to the [Decree No. 2009-2200](#) of July 14, 2009, fixing the nomenclature of the regulated animal diseases and enacting the general measures applicable to these diseases, as completed by the [Decree No. 2010-1207](#) of May 24th, 2010,

Having regard to [Decree No. 2011-263](#) of March 10, 2011, appointing members of the Government,

Having regard to the [Order](#) of the Minister of Agriculture of May 19, 1999, establishing the measures to combat avian influenza,

In view of the opinion of the Minister of Public Health.

ORDER:

Article 1 - A country in which at least one case of infection with avian influenza of domestic birds, raised or kept in captivity, is considered to be infected with avian influenza, in accordance with Article 1 of the [Order](#) of the Minister of Agriculture of May 19, 1999, referred above, and resumed its health status following a favorable end of the health event, and this, in accordance with the reports of the World Organization for Animal Health.

Art. 2 - The import and transit of all bird species and all categories of their products, produced or coming from countries contaminated by avian influenza, are prohibited.

The import and transit ban does not apply to birds and products exported from a country before the first outbreak of avian influenza and arrived at the Tunisian border after the change in the health status of the exporting country.

Art. 3 - Subject to the legislative and regulatory provisions in force and the second Article of this Order, the importation of the below is authorized:

- Fertilized eggs free from specified pathogenic microorganisms and intended for scientific and technical purposes.
- Products of birds produced or coming from countries infected with avian influenza and having undergone treatment in accordance with the provisions of the attached Annex and whose treatment method has been recorded in the veterinary health certificate accompanying the imported and approved consignment official veterinary services of the exporting country.

Art. 4 - This Order will be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Tunisia.

Tunis, August 10, 2011

Minister of Agriculture and Environment
Mokhtar Jalleli

Viewed

The Prime Minister
Beji Caid Essebsi

ANNEX

Poultry: all species of birds kept in captivity for raising, in accordance with the definition provided for in the second article of the Order of the Minister of Agriculture of 19 May 1999, establishing measures to combat avian influenza

Table 1: Thermal treatment processes for the inactivation of the virus responsible for avian influenza in poultry meat

Product	Minimum Product Core Temperatures (° C)	Minimum Thermal Exposure Times
Poultry meat	60.0	507 seconds
	65.0	42 seconds
	70.0	3.5 seconds
	73.9	0.51 seconds

Table 2: Heat treatment processes for the inactivation of the virus responsible for avian plague in poultry eggs and egg products

Product	Minimum Product Core Temperatures (° C)	Minimum Thermal Exposure Times
Whole egg	60	188 seconds
Whole egg mixture	60	188 seconds
	61.1	94 seconds
Liquid egg white	55.6	870 seconds
	56.7	232 seconds
Egg yolk in 10% saline solution	62.2	138 seconds
Freeze-dried egg white	67	20 hours
	54.4	513 hours