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# GAIN Report

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## China - Peoples Republic of

**Post:** Guangzhou

### Guangdong to restrict live poultry trade

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

Poultry and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

Guangdong will restrict live poultry trade starting from January 15, 2015. The new regulation aims at limiting live bird trading in urban areas, which believes can reduce the risk of bird flu outbreaks.

## **General Information:**

In order to prevent and control of avian influenza, Guangdong provincial government signed a regulation on poultry trading and management on December 15, 2014, which will come into effect on January 15, 2015. The new regulation aims at limiting live bird trading in urban areas.

According to the new regulation, city governments within the province will establish restricted areas for live-poultry trade in urban areas. No more than three live-poultry retail markets will be allowed in each area, while no new live bird wholesale markets will be approved. Through the new regulation, the number of markets selling live poultry in urban areas is to be greatly reduced to prevent outbreaks of bird flu.

All live poultry will be centralized slaughtered by designated slaughtering houses, and then the chilled bird would be packaged and delivered through cold chain (0 to 4 degree Celsius) to the vendors at the wholesale markets for retail.

Guangzhou, the capital city of Guangdong province, launched a pilot program called “Centralized Slaughtering, Cold Chain Delivery, Chilled Poultry Supply” on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in four areas of the city. By that time, the local government is hoping to eventually replicate the pilot program to the entire city, which believes can reduce the risk of Avian Influenza caused by live poultry at the wet markets.

Guangdong, as a province with a huge population over 106 million, has an important role to play in the prevention and control of avian influenza. Increased cases of the bird flu strain stoke concerns the virus may mutate into a form that spreads from person to person, as millions travel across China to see their families for the Lunar New Year holiday. The recent death case of a man being infected with the H7N9 Avian Influenza virus in earlier December 2014 and two Guangzhou people being infected with H5N6 Avian Influenza virus in late December, further prompt the local government to restrict live bird trading in urban areas.