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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Voluntary - Public

Date: 2/25/2019

GAIN Report Number: HK1909

Hong Kong

Post: Hong Kong

Macau Lifts Ban on Poultry Products from Select Asian Countries

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

Macau lifted the 15-year ban on poultry and poultry-derived products from 11 places by Administrative Regulation No. 16/2019. Macau imposed the ban on January 29, 2004 following a series of avian influenza outbreaks in the region.

In a government gazette issued on February 18, 2019, the Macau government announced that it ended its ban on poultry and poultry-derived products from Korea, Vietnam, Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Taiwan, and three provinces from China, namely Guangxi, Hubei, and Hunan with immediate effect.

The ban was imposed on January 29, 2004, via Administrative Regulation No. 7/2004, as a preventive measure to safeguard public health following the outbreak of avian influenza (AI) in many parts of Asia and the confirmation of human-infected cases of the H5N1 virus. The ban covered hatching eggs, live birds, meats, offals, and poultry-derived products for animal feed and industrial uses from these eleven places.

According to the Administrative Regulation lifting the ban, the ban was removed due to the change in the avian influenza epidemic situation in the region and places concerned. The Administrative Regulation further pointed out that Macau's existing inspection measures and international practices have been effectively regulating the import and export control of poultry and poultry-related products. Macau, therefore, no longer considered it necessary to impose import restrictions or requirements on poultry products via any future Administrative Regulations.

Currently, Macau does not impose ban on U.S. poultry products in the event of an AI outbreak in the United States. However, all U.S. poultry supplies to Macau are re-exported via Hong Kong and Hong Kong adopts a county-wide restriction on U.S. poultry whenever there is an AI outbreak in the United States. As such, U.S. poultry access to Macau mirrors that of Hong Kong, and de facto subject to county-based restrictions in the event of an AI outbreak in the United States.

In 2018, Hong Kong re-exported to Macau a total of USD32 million of poultry products from all over the world, with Brazil (USD13 million/40% market share) and the United States (USD10 Million/30% market share) as the largest two suppliers.