

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** April 14,2020

**Report Number:** HK2020-0020

**Report Name:** Hong Kong Reaction to HPAI Unlikely to Impact Trade

**Country:** Hong Kong

**Post:** Hong Kong

**Report Category:** Poultry and Products, Pest/Disease Occurrences

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**Report Highlights:**

The confirmation of highly pathogenic (HPAI) H7N3 avian influenza in Chesterfield County, South Carolina is unlikely to have any significant impact on U.S. agricultural exports to Hong Kong. Hong Kong imposes avian influenza-related bans on poultry meat from the United States on a county basis, regardless of whether it is highly pathogenic or low pathogenic avian influenza. Following the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's notification to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) of confirmed HPAI in Chesterfield, South Carolina, the Hong Kong Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department imposed a ban on the importation of live birds and poultry from the entire United States effective April 14, 2020. The ban has no trade impact given that the United States does not export live poultry to Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong government (HKG) will not impose any additional bans on U.S. poultry products as a result of the highly pathogenic (HPAI) H7N3 avian influenza case in Chesterfield County, South Carolina. In the wake of the recent low pathogenic H7N3 avian influenza in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, the HKG's Food and Environment Hygiene Department imposed a ban on frozen poultry meat from Chesterfield County effective March 26, 2020. The HKG's trade suspension policy on poultry imports from the United States in the event of avian influenza is based on the affected county, no matter whether the avian influenza is of low or high pathogenic, so the recent confirmation of HPAI will only impact product from Chesterfield County, which has been banned since late March 2020. As such, the HPAI case of Chesterfield does not bring any additional harm to U.S. poultry trade to Hong Kong.

In the case of live birds, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has imposed a ban on birds from the entire United States. Since the United States does not export live poultry to Hong Kong, there is no impact on trade at all. However, there are occasional transshipments of day-old chicks from the United States to Southeast Asian countries via Hong Kong. Post is still clarifying with AFCD to see if transshipments at the airport will be allowed under the current ban. According to the Hong Kong government, there has been only one transshipment of day-old chicks from the United States to a Southeast Asian country via Hong Kong since 2018.

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.