IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS Note/2020/23   **Date: 10 August 2020**

1. AMENDMENT TO DECISION 2007/777/EC WITH REGARDS IMPORTS OF POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTS
2. AMENDMENT TO REGULATION 798/2008 AS REGARDS CERTAIN POULTRY COMMODITIES FROM THE USA

Purpose

1.   To inform you of the amendments to the list of third countries with regards certification of meat products from Kosovo and poultry commodities from the USA.

Background

Part I – Imports of meat products

2.   Commission Decision 2007/777/EC (as amended) sets out the conditions for imports of meat products and treated stomachs, bladders and intestines for human consumption.

3.   The European Commission carried out an audit in Kosovo to evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of poultry meat products for export to the Union. Following the favourable outcome of that audit and the guarantees provided by Kosovo as regards the origin and treatment of the meat of poultry used for the production of the meat products, Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/981 of 7 July 2020 amends Part 2 of Annex II of Decision 2007/777 to include Kosovo in the list of third countries set out in Part 2 of Annex II indicating treatment C or D in the column for poultry and farmed feathered game (except ratites).

Amendment to the Model Health certificate for meat products

5.   The model veterinary certificate for imports of meat products, refers to meat products prepared from poultry meat originating in a Member State or satisfying the animal health

requirements for import into the Union laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008, and provides that that meat has to undergo the non-specific treatment 'A' set out in Part 4 of Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC.

6.   The veterinary certificate requirements do not, however, refer to meat of poultry originating in a Member State or satisfying the animal health requirements for import into the Union laid down in Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 and having to undergo one of the specific treatments set out in Part 4 of Annex II to Decision 2007/777/EC. Given that the specific treatment of the product needs to be applied irrespective of the origin of the fresh meat used in the preparation of the meat products, and the negligible risks for poultry health involved in such practices, the model veterinary certificate for meat products, should include a certification provision for that specific situation.

7.   For a transitional period until 10 November 2020, meat products, treated stomachs, bladders and intestines, from third countries accompanied by a model certificate issued in accordance with the model set out in Annex III to Decision 2007/777/EC, and before the amendments made by this Decision should be accepted provided that the certificate was issued no later than 10 October 2020.

Part II –Imports of poultry and poultry products from the USA

8.   In April this year we issued **OVS Note/2020/12** advising you of outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the USA and restrictions were put in place on poultry and poultry products from the affected area.

9.   The United States submitted updated information on the epidemiological situation on its territory and the measures it has taken to prevent further spread of HPAI, which have now been evaluated by the Commission. In addition, the United States has reported on the completion of cleaning and disinfection measures on 7 May 2020 following the stamping out policy on the poultry holding where the HPAI outbreak was confirmed in April. On the basis of this information the restrictions put in place in April can be lifted.

10.   Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1166 of 6 August 2020 amends the entry of the United States in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 to take account of the eradication of highly pathogenic avian influenza on its territory.

Action for OVSs

8.   To note the above information.

Contact point for enquiries
Tel: 03000 200 301
Email**:** imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Imports and EU Policy Team