



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 17/23

Advice on the HPAI movement restrictions of poultry to the slaughterhouse

Date issued: 31 May 2023

Purpose

To inform Official Veterinarians of the temporary measures to accept consignments of poultry from the UK in compliance with Article 124 (e) of Delegated Regulation 2020/692 certified by using EHC 8371 – ‘Fresh meat of poultry other than ratites, excluding minced meat and mechanically separated meat’ until it is amended to enable certification of the provision in the new Article 124(e).

Background

1. The EU have made a derogation to point (c)(i) of Article 124 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692. This amendment permits consignments of poultry to pass through a HPAI restricted zone during their transport to the slaughterhouse provided it complies with the conditions set out in point (e) of this Article (listed below):
 - i) the establishment of origin of the poultry, the zone of the third country or territory not listed for entry into the Union and the slaughterhouse are located in the same third country or territory;
 - ii) the passing through of that zone of the third country or territory is performed without stopping or unloading in that zone;
 - iii) the passing through of that zone of the third country or territory is performed prioritising major highways or mainline railways;

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- iv) the passing through of that zone of the third country or territory is performed avoiding the vicinity of establishments keeping animals of listed species for the relevant diseases of poultry;
 - v) the passing through of that zone of the third country or territory is performed after depopulation and cleaning and disinfection of the establishment(s) affected by outbreak(s) of highly pathogenic avian influenza or infection with Newcastle disease virus;
 - vi) following the passing through of that zone of the third country or territory, the poultry shall be brought directly to the slaughterhouse and be slaughtered within a period of 6 hours from the time of their arrival at the slaughterhouse.
2. If no suitable alternatives are possible and provided that all the conditions listed in (i) to (vi) of point (e) are complied with, poultry transported to the slaughterhouse may pass through more than one zone referred to in this point.
 3. The EU Commission is due to update the wording in the current export health certificate for poultry meat (EHC 8371) to reflect the new legislation. In the meantime, the EU Commission has agreed to temporarily accept consignments of poultry meat from UK where these are certified using the current version of the Export Health Certificate provided that consignments comply with Article 124(e) of Delegated Regulation 2020/692.
 4. Where attestation II.2.4(f)(i) of the certificate is not applicable, this may be struck through, provided that the consignment complies with Article 124(e) of Delegated Regulation 2020/692.
 5. The notes for guidance for EHC 8371 have been amended to reflect this derogation.

Action

Exporters are able to move fresh meat of poultry which has passed through a zone not listed for Entry into the European Union during transport to the slaughterhouse to the European Union and Northern Ireland, providing that the consignment complies with the conditions listed above.

Further Information

APHA Centre for International Trade – Carlisle, email: exports@apha.gov.uk Telephone: 03000 300 201

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