

Animal Health Requirements for poultry meat etc. to be exported to Japan from the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
--

Animal Health Requirements for poultry meat etc. to be exported to Japan from the United Kingdom (hereinafter referred to as “the exported poultry meat etc.”) are applied as follows.

(Definitions)

“Poultry”

means chicken, quail, pheasant, emu, ostrich, guinea fowl, turkey and birds classified into order Anseriformes (such as duck and goose).

“Poultry meat etc.”

means meat, bone, fat, blood, skin, tendon and viscera of poultry and their products.

“Highly pathogenic avian influenza (referred to as HPAI)”

means infection of poultry caused by an avian influenza virus of high pathogenicity as defined in the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

“Low pathogenic avian influenza (referred to as LPAI)”

means infection of poultry caused by an avian influenza virus of H5 and H7 subtypes other than HPAI virus.

“Notifiable Avian Influenza (referred to as NAI)”

means HPAI and LPAI as defined above.

“Fowl cholera”

means infection of poultry caused by a bacterium, *Pasteurella multocida* with acute septicemia.

“Outbreak”

means:

regardless of clinical signs, detection of the specific antigens or identification of the pathogens of the diseases in domestic poultry. In the case of NAI,

(1) isolation of the pathogens of the disease, detection of the specific antigens of the disease, or detection of the specific antibodies of the disease in the presence of clinical signs in domestic poultry, or

(2) in the case of detection of the specific antibodies only, confirmation of (1) above or confirmation of seroconversion to positive or rise in antibody titer, as a result of an immediate epidemiological investigation and necessary laboratory tests to isolate the pathogen or to detect the specific antigens or the specific antibodies (hereinafter, referred to as “follow-up investigation”).

“Seropositive case”

means a case in which only the specific antibodies of NAI were detected without clinical signs and confirmed that an outbreak was ruled out as a result of a follow-up investigation or result pending.

“Country of origin”

means country or region where live poultry and raw materials from which the exported poultry meat etc. were produced.

Country of origin must be on the list of the countries and regions which are recognized as free from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) by the Japanese animal health authority (hereinafter referred to as “the third free countries”). Please refer to the latest list of the third free countries from the following URL:

<http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/third-free.html>

“Infected region”

(1) Regarding HPAI

means a county where an outbreak of HPAI is confirmed and a county where the Protection zone and Surveillance zone established based on the United Kingdom regulation reaches. Those counties are regarded as infected regions until the Japanese animal health authority confirms that the counties are free from HPAI even after the Protection zone and Surveillance zone is lifted.

(2) Regarding LPAI

means a county where an outbreak of LPAI is confirmed. The county is regarded as an infected region until the Japanese animal health authority confirms that the counties are free from LPAI.

“Protection zone”

means a radius of at least 3 km around the HPAI affected premises as is established by the competent authority of the United Kingdom.

“Surveillance zone”

means a radius of at least 10 km around the HPAI affected premises and outside the Protection zone as is established by the competent authority of the United Kingdom.

“Seropositive region”

means a county where a seropositive case was detected.

“Free region”

means counties of the United Kingdom other than infected region and seropositive region. The third free countries are also defined as free region.

“The Japanese animal health authority”

means Animal Health Division, Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Japanese Government.

“The competent authority of the United Kingdom”

means the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs in the United Kingdom

1. General requirements

NAI and Newcastle Disease are designated as notifiable diseases in the United Kingdom. In case an outbreak or suspicion of an outbreak is detected, that must be notified to the competent authority of the United Kingdom without delay.

2. Requirements regarding NAI

- (1) If an outbreak of NAI is detected, or the specific antibody of NAI is detected, the competent authority of the United Kingdom must immediately notify the Japanese animal health authority and suspend the export of poultry meat etc. to Japan.
- (2) The surveillance program for NAI based on the WOA Code is implemented by the competent authority of the United Kingdom.
- (3) Vaccination against NAI is prohibited in the United Kingdom except for the one for zoo birds under a specific license issued by the competent authority of the United Kingdom.

3. Requirements regarding origin of poultry

- (1) The poultry used for the production of the exported poultry meat etc. must be kept and raised in an area (at least in the radius of 50 km from the premises of origin) where there has been free from Newcastle Disease for at least 90 days before slaughter or since the hatching of the poultry.
- (2) There have been no clinical cases of Fowl Cholera and outbreak of other important poultry diseases, designated by the competent authority of the United Kingdom as notifiable diseases, in the premises of origin of the poultry, from which the exported poultry meat etc. originates for at least 90 days before slaughter or since the hatching of the poultry.

4. Requirements regarding HPAI

- (1) The United Kingdom has been free from HPAI for at least 28 days before the day of shipment of the exported poultry meat etc.
- (2) Notwithstanding (1) above, in case the following a), b), c) and d) are confirmed by the Japanese animal health authority based on the information provided by the competent authority of the United Kingdom, the exportation of poultry meat that are derived from the free region and satisfy the following e) and f) is possible regardless of the HPAI outbreak in the United Kingdom.

This provision is not applied in the case of the Japanese animal health authority assesses that the HPAI outbreak in the United Kingdom spreads among farms and expands to the neighboring counties of the infected region.

- a) The outbreak was detected without delay by early notification from the affected farm or surveillance;
- b) Appropriate containment measures including movement restriction, stamping out and disinfection are fully implemented at the affected farm;
- c) Epidemiologically related premises of the affected farm have been identified and appropriate control measures such as movement restriction on the premises and establishment of Protection and Surveillance zones around the premises are implemented. In case an outbreak of NAI is detected at the epidemiologically related premises, the county where the premises are located becomes an infected region;
- d) The Protection and Surveillance zone around the affected farm is established based on the contingency plan against NAI outbreak in the United Kingdom. Appropriate containment measures such as movement restriction and surveillance for NAI for farms within the zones are implemented;
- e) The live poultry used for the production of the exported poultry meat etc. originates from free regions and has been transported into the poultry slaughtering facilities only via free regions;

or

If they pass through the infected regions before being carried into slaughterhouses, appropriate vehicles in terms of animal health which do not allow contamination of pathogens of avian influenza virus during the transport must be used. In addition, the competent authority of the United Kingdom must ensure that the poultry were directly sent from the origin of them to the slaughterhouses in the vehicle never opened on the way.

- f) Before the shipment to Japan, the exported poultry meat etc. were stored in clean and secure wrapping or container and transported in a safe and sanitary manner from the animal health point of view, in order to avoid the contamination with any pathogens of poultry infectious diseases.

- (3) In the case of having applied (2) above, the exportation of poultry meat etc. derived from the infected region can be resumed when the Japanese animal health authority confirms the absence of HPAI outbreak for 28 days after the completion of cleaning and disinfection at all affected farm.

5. Requirements regarding LPAI

- (1) The United Kingdom has been free from LPAI for at least 28 days before the day of shipment of the exported poultry meat etc.

(2) Notwithstanding (1) above, in case the following a), b), c) and d) are confirmed by the Japanese animal health authority based on the information provided by the competent authority of the United Kingdom, the exportation of poultry meat that are derived from the free region and satisfy the following e) and f) is possible regardless of the LPAI outbreak in the United Kingdom.

- a) The outbreak was detected without delay by early notification from the affected farm or surveillance;
- b) Appropriate containment measures including movement restriction, stamping out and disinfection are fully implemented at the affected farm;
- c) Epidemiologically related premises of the affected farm have been identified and appropriate control measures such as movement restriction on the premises and establishment of restricted zones around the premises are implemented. In case an outbreak of NAI is detected at the epidemiologically related premises, the county where the premises are located becomes an infected region;
- d) The restricted zone in accordance with the United Kingdom regulation around the affected farm is established based on the contingency plan against NAI outbreak in the United Kingdom. Appropriate containment measures such as movement restriction and surveillance for NAI for farms within the zones are implemented;
- e) the live poultry used for the production of the exported poultry meat etc. originates from free regions and has been transported into the poultry slaughtering facilities only via free regions;

or

If they pass through the infected regions before being carried into slaughterhouses, appropriate vehicles in terms of animal health which do not allow contamination of pathogens of avian influenza virus during the transport must be used. In addition, the competent authority of the United Kingdom must ensure that the poultry were directly sent from the origin of them to the slaughterhouses in the vehicle never opened on the way.

- f) Before the shipment to Japan, the exported poultry meat etc. were stored in clean and secure wrapping or container and transported in a safe and sanitary manner from the animal health point of view, in order to avoid the contamination with any pathogens of poultry infectious diseases.

(3) In the case of having applied (2) above, the exportation of poultry meat etc. derived from the infected region can be resumed when the Japanese animal health authority confirms the absence of LPAI outbreak for 28 days after the completion of cleaning and disinfection at all affected farms.

6. Requirements regarding seropositive case

(1) If the competent authority of the United Kingdom confirms a seropositive case, the date of confirmation and the seropositive region where the seropositive case was

identified must be notified to the Japanese animal health authority immediately.

- (2) The Japanese animal health authority may suspend the import of the exported poultry meat etc. from a seropositive region when Japan recognizes the confirmation of the seropositive case in the United Kingdom.
- (3) The exportation of poultry meat etc. derived from the seropositive region can be resumed when the Japanese animal health authority confirms that 28 days have elapsed since the date of confirmation of the seropositive case or if the Japanese animal health authority approves after consultation with the competent authority of the United Kingdom that an adequate epidemiological investigation has shown that the detection was only of isolated seropositive antibodies and not an active infection of avian influenza.

7. Requirements regarding the establishments for production

- (1) The establishments for production of the exported poultry meat etc. (including slaughtering, processing and storage facilities. Hereinafter referred to as "the establishments") must be authorized by the competent authority of the United Kingdom as the ones where sanitary inspections are conducted periodically by the government veterinary inspector or the animal health inspector appointed by the competent authority of the United Kingdom (hereinafter referred to as "the inspector").
- (2) The competent authority of the United Kingdom must notify the Japanese animal health authority of the name, address and approval number of the establishments prior to the exportation from the establishments to Japan commences.
- (3) The Japanese animal health authority may conduct on-site inspections of the establishments, if necessary. When the Japanese animal health authority recognizes that the inspected establishment does not meet the requirements stipulated in this document, the shipment of the poultry meat etc. to be exported to Japan from the said establishment may be suspended.

8. Requirements for processing

- (1) The poultry used for the production of the exported poultry meat etc. must be confirmed free from any poultry infectious diseases as a consequence of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by the inspector.
- (2) The exported poultry meat etc. must be handled and stored in such a way as to prevent contamination with pathogens of any poultry infectious disease prior to shipment to Japan.
- (3) The exported poultry meat etc. must be packed in safe and hygienic materials and the packed meat etc. must be contained in clean container boxes, with the name and the approval number of the processing facility on the surface of the boxes.

9. Requirements for transportation

- (1) The exported poultry meat etc. to be exported to Japan must be transported

directly to Japan, or

- (2) The poultry meat etc. to be exported to Japan must be transported to Japan through the third countries in a hermetic container sealed by the competent authority of the United Kingdom with a seal that can be obviously differentiated from that of the third countries.

10. Inspection Certificate

The competent authority of the United Kingdom must issue inspection certificate for all the exported poultry meat etc., stating the following items in detail in English:

- (1) Statements regarding 1, 2-(2), 2-(3), 3, 4-(1) or (2), 5-(1) or (2), 7-(1), 8-(1) and 8-(2);
- (2) Country of origin
- (3) Country of origin of poultry used for the production of the exported poultry meat etc.
- (4) Name, address and approval number of the slaughterhouse, processing facility and storage facility.
- (5) Date of slaughter, cutting, processing and packing.
- (6) Name of the port of shipment.
- (7) Date and place of issuance of the inspection certificate, and name and official title of the signer
- (8) Seal number (if sealed)

In case the United Kingdom is not the country of origin of the exported poultry meat etc., an original or a copy of inspection certificate satisfying all the conditions mentioned above*, issued by the government authority of the country of origin, must be attached to the inspection certificate issued by the competent authority of the United Kingdom.

*The period specified in 4-(1) and 5-(1) must be aligned with the Animal Health Requirements between Japan and the country of origin of the exported poultry meat etc. [available at <https://www.maff.go.jp/ags/hou/require/chicken-meet.html>]

Annex 1

Additional animal health requirements for the meat products using natural casings to be exported to Japan from the United Kingdom

In case the natural casings are derived from cattle, sheep and/or goat;

- 1 The natural casings must be derived from animal which was born and raised in the countries other than the countries listed in the link below.

<http://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/bse.html>

- 2 The natural casings are derived from animals which were free from any animal infectious diseases as a consequence of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by official inspectors of the animal health authorities of the United Kingdom. If the natural casings for the production of exported meat products are imported from third countries, they must have been free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the official inspectors of the animal health authorities of the United Kingdom or confirmation of the health certificates issued by the government of the country of origin.
- 3 If the natural casings are derived from animals originating from countries other than those free from rinderpest and FMD (<https://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/third-free.html>), they must be, after processing, salted for at least 30 days with dry salt (NaCl), saturated brine ($Aw < 0.80$), or phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($Aw < 0.80$) containing 86.5 percent NaCl, 10.7 percent Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8 percent Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight) in the sealed container and must be kept at a temperature of greater than 12°C during this entire period.
- 4 Natural casings have been handled only at the facilities approved (hereinafter referred to as “approved casing facilities”) by the national government of the United Kingdom as the ones which handle only natural casings prescribed in items 1, 2 and 3. (In case the natural casings are imported from third countries, this provision must apply to the natural casing facilities in the countries that export the casing to the United Kingdom.)
- 5 The animal health authorities of the United Kingdom must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name, address, approval number of the approved natural casing facilities in advance.
- 6 The animal health authorities of the United Kingdom must issue inspection certificates for the meat products using natural casings to be exported to Japan,

attesting the following items in English:

- 1) Items 1, 2 and 3 of this Annex
- 2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin (The country where animal used for the production of natural casings were born and raised) and animal species of origin
- 3) Name, address and approval number of the approved natural casing facilities

In case the natural casings derived from pig;

1. The natural casings are derived from animals which were free from any animal infectious diseases as a consequence of ante- and post-mortem inspections conducted by official inspectors of the animal health authorities of the United Kingdom. If the natural casings for the production of exported meat products are imported from third countries, they must have been free from any evidence of animal infectious diseases as a result of import inspection conducted by the official inspectors of the animal health authorities of the United Kingdom or confirmation of the health certificates issued by the originating government.
- 2 If the natural casings are derived from the animals originated from the countries other than those free from rinderpest, FMD, CSF and ASF (<https://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/news/third-free.html>), they must be, after processing, salted for at least 30 days either with phosphate supplemented dry salt or saturated brine ($A_w < 0.80$) containing 86.5 percent NaCl, 10.7 percent Na_2HPO_4 and 2.8 percent Na_3PO_4 (weight/weight/weight) in the sealed container and must be kept at a temperature of greater than 20°C during this entire period.
- 3 Natural casings have been handled only at the facilities approved (hereinafter referred to as “approved natural casing facilities”) by the national government of the United Kingdom as the ones which handle only natural casings prescribed in items 1 and 2. (In case the natural casings are imported from third countries, this provision must apply to the natural casing facilities in the countries that export the casing to the United Kingdom.)
- 4 The animal health authorities of the United Kingdom must inform the Japanese animal health authorities of the name, address, approval number of the approved natural casing facilities in advance.
- 5 The animal health authorities of the United Kingdom must issue inspection certificates for the exported meat products using natural casings to Japan, attesting the following items in English:
 - 1) Items 1 and 2 of this Annex
 - 2) The kind of casings (natural), country of origin (The country where the animal used for the production of natural casings were born and raised)
 - 3) Name, address and approval number of the approved natural casing facilities